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MOQA disbands, citing disinterest

By Bronwyn Oatley

Facing a diminished membership, low community participation and the absence of members willing to serve as co-chairs for next year's organization, the leadership of the Middlebury Open Queer Alliance (MOQA) has announced its intention to pursue the formal disbandment of the College's only student-run lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) group.

On Monday May 6, Emma Ashby '13, Petr Knor '15 and Ada Santiago '14, the three MOQA co-chairs, sent an email to members of the LGBTQ student organization informing all that the group would be disbanded. The decision came following a vote during the organization's weekly Sunday meeting, which drew a crowd of only five students — the organization's three co-chairs and two group members.

"We have been talking about this on and off all year," said

Ashby, explaining that the leadership decided to finally disband in the face of "very sparing" participation and attendance at the organization's Gaypril events.

"We brought an amazing speaker, Lesléa Newman, who has been a part of LGBTQ history — and which cost the school \$1,500 — and only six people attended." Ashby also pointed to low participation at the organization's "Queer European" panel, a presentation on "downlow culture," a workshop on HIV/AIDS as well as one of the group's social events, an afternoon "BBQueer".

"In addition," she continued, "no one has stepped up to serve as the co-president of the organization for next fall. We just haven't gotten enough support ... Things have gotten really ridiculous."

While sympathetic to student frustration, Dean of the College Shirley Collado expressed

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Commencement 2013



COURTESY

On May 26, Bronwyn Oatley '13 will deliver the commencement speech for the class of 2013.

"I'm truly honored to have the opportunity to represent our class at commencement," said Oatley.

"In my four years at Middlebury, I've had the opportunity to work with so many amazing students, faculty and staff — at the Campus, on the alpine ski team and with the Middlebury Open Queer Alliance — and I hope to give a voice to a variety of student perspectives at graduation."

Liddell wins in a landslide election

By Ilana Gratch

On Thursday, May 2, an all-campus email announced that Rachel Liddell '15 was elected President of the Student Government Association (SGA) for the 2013-2014 academic year.

The election yielded a record turnout with a total of 1,484 votes. Liddell received 772 votes, which amounted to 52.02 percent of votes and a clear majority. Liddell defeated Killian Naylor '14.5, who received 367 votes and Nathan LaBarba '14, who received 345 votes. Ranked ballot calculations were not deemed necessary in the tally process.

"The campaign was a huge amount of effort and time, but the real work starts now," said Liddell. "I'm just shocked by the voter turnout, blown away by the distribution of the vote and very

proud."

Current SGA Chief of Staff Anna Esten '13 noted the impressive voter turnout as well. "The turnout was the highest we have on record, and we think it was a combination of the fact that there were three high-profile presidential candidates running, as well as increased interest in the SGA in general this year."

A new provision of SGA election guidelines, enacted this fall, is thought to have contributed to the record voter turnout. The new rule allowed candidates to campaign during the voting period, whereas campaigning in previous years ended when ballots went live online.

Liddell's SGA experience stems from her role as Cook Commons Senator during the 2012-2013

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STUDENTS PROTEST VERMONT GAS PIPELINE



KELSEY COLLINS

Students marched from Proctor terrace to Old Chapel with painted banners on Tuesday, May 7 to protest the College's written support of the proposed Vermont Gas pipeline, which would extend from Colchester, Vt. to Addison County. In an email sent to the entire college community the day before, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz elaborated on the College's support of the project. "Ultimately, we believe the pipeline will contribute to the economic welfare of the region and that it would be unacceptable for us to stand in the way of real and measurable progress toward goals broadly shared in our community," he wrote. He also addressed one major concern of those who oppose the pipeline, which is that some of the gas it will transport will be fracked gas. Liebowitz admitted this was true, but countered that "the steep increase in the amount of fracked natural gas in the North American distribution system means that it is virtually impossible to ensure delivery of only unfracked natural gas."

College awards student leaders

By Anna Chamby

On Tuesday evening, the Office of the Dean of the College held its third annual Student Leadership Awards Ceremony in Atwater Dining Hall to recognize students, groups and organizations for their public service, leadership and talent.

"We decided to merge all of them and this is what we have," said Special Assistant to the Dean of the College Jennifer Herrera, who was a key member in directing and organizing the program. "The amount of people that are

nominated — it's incredible. It has grown immensely and we are so proud."

Students and student organizations were nominated through online submissions open to the entire college community. Separate selection committees, respective to the type of award, then chose from those nominees to be presented and individually honored at the ceremony.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz opened the evening

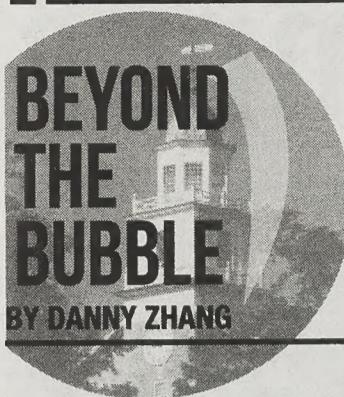
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PRETTY IN PINK



Attendees applaud as Priscilla Odinmah '15 struts her stuff during the annual African American Alliance fashion show on Saturday, May 4 in Coltrane Lounge, which was transformed into a runway.

VIVIANA ALTAMIRANO



BEYOND THE BUBBLE

BY DANNY ZHANG

The bloody civil war in Syria, which began more than two years ago at the height of the Arab Spring, continues to escalate as more disturbing mass killings and evidence of chemical weapons-use have surfaced in the last few weeks.

On April 23, Israeli intelligence officials claimed that they had found evidence that Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's forces used chemical weapons in an attack in March. The claims came a week after Britain and France raised suspicions about the use of chemical weapons and in a letter urged the United Nations to conduct a thorough investigation.

The United States was initially hesitant to echo Israel's claims, calling for more careful investigation that might reveal more conclusive evidence. However, two days later, the White House wrote to leaders in Congress saying that American intelligence officials concluded "with varying degrees of confidence" the use of sarin on a small scale by Syrian government forces. Senator Dianne Feinstein of California said that those intelligence claims had been based on soil samples in the ground and blood samples from victims.

The evidence of chemical warfare is significant because of two statements made by President Obama over the last year. Last summer, Obama warned that any use of chemical weapons by Assad would be a "red line" for escalation of U.S. involvement. While visiting Israel in March of this year, he reiterated his statement, calling the use of chemical weapons "a game changer" in the Syrian conflict.

So far, the White House has not said what action it might take if more conclusive evidence of chemical weapon use is presented. Many experts say that the President is caught in the bind of sticking to his word while being reluctant to mire the U.S. with another conflict in the Middle East. Last Friday, President Obama said he "[does] not foresee a scenario in which ... American boots on the ground in Syria would be good for America or be good for Syria."

While the U.S. has so far been reluctant to discuss military action in Syria, the country's neighbor, Israel, has been proactive in preparing to defend itself against any threats to its security. Last Thursday, Israeli planes struck a shipment of missiles en route from Iran to Hezbollah. The shipment was being stored in a warehouse at Damascus' airport. This follows an Israeli airstrike in January that hit a convoy similarly delivering arms to Hezbollah. The United States believes Israel used Lebanese airspace to launch the air-to-ground missiles.

On Saturday, another series of airstrikes engulfed the Syrian government's military research and defense facilities in flames. The compound lying on the outskirts of Damascus was struck in the pre-dawn hours. So far, Israel has not claimed responsibility for the strikes. Syrian Foreign Minister has already called the attack "a declaration of war" by Israel.

In recent days, sectarian violence between government Alawite forces and Sunni Syrians has left hundreds dead. Late last week, many Sunni families fled Banias and Baida, two towns where especially cruel massacres had taken place. Government troops torched houses and stabbed and shot civilians in the streets.

Thus far, the Syrian civil war has claimed over 70,000 lives. It has also displaced millions of people in the country, with over one million refugees spilling across borders into Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATE

By Claire Abbadi

Community Council had its last meeting of the year on Monday, May 6 and has spent the last two weeks wrapping up agenda items from the year as well as making a preliminary agenda for next year, when Luke Carroll Brown '14 will serve as student co-chair of Community Council.

On Monday April 29, the Council met with Anna Shireman-Grabowski '15.5 and Sam Koplinka-Lohr '13 to discuss the Vermont Gas Pipeline Project, a project the College endorsed in 2009. The pipeline, which would feed gas from Alberta, Ontario to Chittenden and Addison Counties in Vt., would use natural gas which is both cheaper and more carbon efficient. However, some of the gas being fed into the pipeline would be fracked gas, which is banned in the state of Vermont, because of the particularly disruptive techniques fracking uses. Two students spoke at a Student Government Association (SGA) meeting, which subsequently passed a resolution asking the administration to reconsider its endorsement of the project. The pair came to the Council asking that it produce a similar statement to encourage the administration to reconsider its endorsement of the project.

"All of the gas comes through Alberta,

Canada," explained Shireman-Grabowski, "and when they first presented on the project, it was established that most of the wells in Alberta were using vertical drilling techniques, but it has become clear that more and more of the wells they are drawing from in Canada are using fracking."

Some members of the Council felt that they did not have enough information to recommend the administration change its position.

"I think it would be premature for us to act on this before we hear from [Vice President for Finance and Treasurer's Office] Patrick Norton or Environmental Council on why the College endorsed this project in the first place," said Professor of Film and Media Culture Leger Grindon.

Eventually the Council proposed a resolution reading, "We, Community Council, ask that President [of the College Ronald D.] Liebowitz takes into account new information that has come to light since signing the endorsement of the Vermont Natural Gas Project." The resolution passed with 13 members voting in favor, two members voting in opposition and three abstentions.

Likewise, the Council framed a proposal that the parking fine for vehicles on campus be moved from \$50 to \$25, noting that with the exception of

Liebowitz hesitates on Delta decision

Williams College, no other New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) school has parking fines this high.

Eight members voted in favor of this proposal, seven in opposition and one abstention.

Lastly, the Council met with Liebowitz on April 2 to go over the decision to disband Delta house.

"I think he was interested in getting more background on how we came to our decision," explained Dean of Student Doug Adams. "[He is] seriously considering what ramifications the decision would have for the College."

Since the Council has recommended the disbandment of Delta, Liebowitz has met with members of the house, administrators and most recently with Community Council to discuss this issue. It seems that two options are seriously being considered at this point: suspension and disbandment. Suspension of the house would result in a loss of residential status, but Delta would still be considered a student organization, while disbandment would result in the loss of residential status and recognition of the organization.

"President Liebowitz has said that the final decision should be reached very soon," explained Dean of the College Shirley Collado.

MOQA leaders call for staff involvement

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

apprehension about the organization's decision.

"I completely respect the decision that these students feel that they have to make, but I am concerned that we would not have a student organization to support incoming students," she said.

Collado also wondered whether students had pursued all available channels before making the decision to disband.

"If they were open to engaging in a critical conversation with members of the queer community to get at how to alleviate some of the issues or answer the questions, then that might be a step before saying that they're giving up," she said.

As the College's only student LGBTQ organization, MOQA is a group that seeks to fulfill the social, academic and political desires of students across all four years. For many underclassmen, the group serves as a safe space for conversation of identity and sexuality. Yet for others, a wholly different sort of space, one that is more social, academic or political is desired.

In March, the organization's co-chairs asked their membership to complete a survey ranking in order of preference the types of events that they would like to see facilitated by the co-chairs. Of the survey's 24 respondents, members were nearly evenly split across all activities — parties, performances, academic talks, panels and activism.

Though uncertain as to the cause of the low turnout for events and diminished member participation, Ashby offered a number of hypotheses.

"It's sort of hard to get people to organize unless they are either very strongly for or very strongly against something. Of course, there is homophobia in pockets on the community, but for the most part people are very liberal. It's hard because there aren't really tangible things to organize against," she said, alluding to the difference between generating enthusiasm for MOQA and a group like

Divest for Our Future.

Ashby also suggested that MOQA faces a unique challenge in developing community around a sexual identity. "Many people just organize their own things because their friends are queer, and they don't use MOQA as a conduit.

"But MOQA has the resources to provide funding for parties, lectures and speakers. It would be nice if MOQA could funnel a lot of different directives."

Though sensitive to such explanations, Tony Huynh '13, MOQA co-president from 2010-2011 offered an alternate diagnosis.

"I think that everyone is at fault, but I don't think that meetings have been very well run this year," he said, suggesting that MOQA has seen diminished member participation in part as a result of the group's leadership.

Huynh suggested that this year's group planned fewer social events than in past years, organized a reduced number of discussions during the group's Sunday night meetings and also failed to adequately advertise programming.

In response to such critiques, Santiago, the one current co-chair who had committed to serve in the same position next fall, instead cited an institutional failure, describing the challenge that co-chairs face in seeking to provide programming for the diverse membership of the LGBTQ community without staff support.

"As co-chairs, we're forced to focus on ourselves as students while simultaneously fostering safe spaces for an entire community of students, creating LGBTQ-related programming and events and addressing all the needs (social, political and academic) of students. Some of this should be provided for by a staff member," she wrote in an email.

Santiago noted that Middlebury is "one of the only" NESCAC schools without an LGBTQ resource center or staff coordinator. Though the College has a Queer Studies House and Chellis House, the former is an academic interest

house for queer exploration, and the latter, the Women and Gender Studies Resource Center, is independent from queer identification.

Ashby contended that students seeking non-academic LGBTQ support have only two options: MOQA or the Center for Counseling.

"So you can either get psychological help, or you could go to MOQA."

Yet, Collado pushed back against this assessment, explaining that students seeking LGBTQ support can turn to a variety of staff and faculty, including Dean of Students J.J. Boggs, Special Assistant to the Dean of the College and Senior Advisor for Diversity Jennifer Herrera, all five of the Commons Deans, the staff of Chellis House and the faculty of the women and gender studies department.

"I hesitate to silo affinity groups by area of specialization," she said. "I welcome the opportunity to engage in this conversation, but I want to make sure that we're being very intentional about the way that we define the roles of our staff."

Kevin Moss, the Jean Thompson Fulton professor of modern languages and literature, presently serves as one of MOQA's two faculty liaisons. When informed of the news of the decision to disband the organization, he suggested that he did not think that such a move was an appropriate one, but hoped that it might spur conversation.

"I don't think MOQA should disband, but if this gets people seriously engaging the question of how it can be better in the future, I'm all for it," he wrote in an email.

"I also think it shows that we really need an LGBTQ coordinator to take responsibility for organizing things. Staff, faculty or students will burn out."

Though official steps have not yet been taken to disband MOQA formally, Monday's email explained that henceforth MOQA will "no longer function" as a student organization. Co-chairs hope that this step will cause the community to think more deeply about the role of an LGBTQ student group on campus.

"As a result of whole-community discussion, it is our hope that a conclusion can be reached as to the way forward for MOQA or a similar organization," they wrote.

Students seek reformed keg policy

By Jeremy Kallan

Students were invited to participate in an open forum on Tuesday, April 30 to address the question "What is the future of Social Life at Middlebury?" Sponsored by the Community Council, SGA and the Dean of the College Office, over 40 students and faculty members attended the forum to continue the ongoing conversation regarding issues surrounding on-campus social life, such as what many perceive to be a problematic drinking culture and the desire among many students for a more vibrant party options on campus.

The Task Force on Alcohol and Social Life presented their recommendations (which are available online) to the administration for consideration last spring. Since then, a Task Force implementation team has taken steps to enact many of the recommendations, according to Dean of Students Katy Smith Abbot. In addition to the recent hiring of a director of health and wellness, progress has been made in a number of other areas.

Although some items are still pending budget approval, students can expect to see the following changes: improved alcohol training programs for new students, opportunities to interact with Public Safety and custodial staff, accessible sound systems in public areas, more diverse and publicized programming and, ultimately, reforms to the party registration and hosting policies.

The forum was planned independently of the Task Force's work, but served to create a similar dialogue.

"While the forum cannot directly create policy, I think it was an important reiteration of student voice on social concerns at Middlebury," said Barrett Smith '13, student co-chair of Community Council, which co-hosted the event.

At the event, Smith posed a series of questions to the audience to discuss, first in several small groups followed by an open conversation that lasted more than an hour-and-a-half as many students stayed to share their thoughts long after administrators had left.

Of the many issues raised, significant attention was devoted to the topic of kegs, with many students touting the keg as a viable option for safely and effectively hosting events with alcohol.

"Kegs have a negative connotation," said Will Potter '14.5, former social chair of Tavern. "But the reality is they can be some of the most efficient ways to run a well

controlled party."

Nathan LaBarba '14, a member of last year's Alcohol Task Force, agreed with Potter.

"The keg fosters a very interesting communal environment at parties, it slows down the rate of consumption of alcohol [and] it provides a space where the hosts of the event can make sure that they have control over who is consuming the beer that they are serving," said LaBarba.

College policy prohibits the possession or consumption of any full-sized keg, except in the instance of a registered party or catered event. In order to register a party, hosts must participate in a Party Host Workshop, register any alcohol including kegs by 3 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the party, and provide and monitor a guest list for the event. Additionally, a social house hosting a party may only serve alcohol over a four-hour time limit; after the four hours, Public Safety monitors the closing of the keg and locks it in a closet.

Vermont law places no such restrictions on registering a keg in advance or using it within a specified time limit.

The College's policy has been criticized for being excessively demanding. Associate Director of Public Safety Dan Gaiotti provided a number of reasons for its current existence including concerns about the large quantity, storage, damage and theft of kegs in addition to the "belief that it must be emptied within a short time frame or alcohol will go to waste."

At the forum, Smith Abbot voiced the importance of "making sure that we are clear about why our keg policy is what it is. I think revisiting [the rationale for keg regulations] is worth it."

LaBarba noted that the College's four-hour limit for a keg to be legally registered may cause overconsumption, suggesting a reform allowing students to register a keg for an entire weekend.

"[The administration] will be carefully considering whether we might extend the hours that a keg is available," said Smith Abbot, noting that this is one of many possibilities up for debate. "If we are going to shore up the policies that we have, we need to have a very strong rationale for it."

Many in attendance at the forum described successful parties in which the student relationship with Public Safety was mutually beneficial. However, the overall sentiment was that looser restrictions regarding party registration and kegs in particular could help encourage and

facilitate the hosting of more lively and collective gatherings.

"We understand that students want greater autonomy," said Smith Abbot. "But how we make that a balancing act is an open question."

One possibility under consideration is the presence of a paid student party monitor program, modeled after similar programs successfully implemented at Haverford College and Dartmouth College.

A number of students mentioned the lack of incentives to host a party. Zach Hitchcock '13.5, former president of KDR, described the logistical difficulties of planning and registering a party, citing the high cost of hosting that house members frequently incur. Including alcohol and non-alcoholic beverages, as well as the required provision of food by college policy, Hitchcock estimated the cost of holding a large party to be \$500, only a small percentage of which can be acquired from outside funding sources such as the Middlebury College Activities Boards or Commons funds.

"[Associate Dean of Students] Doug Adams has already convened a group of SGA senators and IHC representatives to discuss changes to party registration," said Smith. "We should see an overhaul of IHC guidelines next academic year and will hopefully see significant reform to party registration as well."

Adrian Kerester '15 said that the current alcohol policy on campus has served to displace social life to off-campus locations.

"One of the reasons I came to this school was because I liked the fact that the social scene was all on-campus," said Kerester. "I really hope that it can remain on campus and can flourish more on campus, because I think there are a lot of dangers associated with off campus parties, including drunk driving."

"I'm most interested to see how the future of social houses will play out," said Smith. "After a rough few years, KDR, the Mill and Tavern are primed to grow and thrive."

Following students' constructive criticism of campus social life and the College's alcohol policy at the forum, specific steps to remedy the apparent lack of vibrant social life may be taken by the administration in the future, but the forum's only clear consensus was that communication about potential solutions should continue among students, faculty and staff.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

BY CHARLIE ARNOWITZ

Middlebury, it has been four wonderful years, and while I'm ready to go, graduation is also bittersweet. I will miss my friends, classes, professors and activities, and I will miss being surrounded by mountains, books and seemingly limitless resources. I will also miss being involved in the Student Government Association (SGA). That is a different takeaway from many past presidents, so I'll explain myself.

Middlebury is an extraordinary place — to be here is a privilege. But it is also an imperfect place, and we all want it to be better. I challenge students, both inside and outside of student government, to more actively engage with this campus. We should not have empty lecture halls when speakers come to campus, empty rooms when student organizations meet, empty inboxes that should be full of committee applications, empty seats at community forums and other opportunities to engage with this institution. We're all busy, it's true, but there is a conspiracy of silence and a culture of apathy at Middlebury that we don't talk about. All of the privileges and resources we have here — all of the professors and peers that we have here — are worth nothing unless we take advantage of them.

I therefore ask Middlebury students to become more engaged with this institution. We have a student government, and it is an excellent opportunity to get involved. But it is not the only opportunity. Indeed, while at many large schools student government serves as the primary conduit for student interaction with their administrative superiors, at Middlebury that sort of a relationship doesn't exist: students go directly to administrators with grievances. As a result of this lucky predicament, common complaints about the SGA not being "visible" don't bother me as long it is functioning adequately and doing the things it needs to be doing. Beyond the SGA, however, this college is full of opportunities for students to take ownership of institutional policy. But they don't. Only if students show that they care about this place — all aspects of this place — will we be given a voice on any aspect of its governance.

I am very proud of the work of my administration this year. We have worked hard to engage with the College, and our reward has been engagement back and positive change. I owe a huge debt of gratitude to the members of my cabinet, who have prioritized the pretty unglamorous work of student government. You, my friends, are awesome, and I can't thank you enough for taking this plunge with me.

I am also grateful to the many administrators, at all levels, with whom I have worked this year. Many folks in Old Chapel have been excellent, but I'd like to give a special shout-out to Associate Deans of Students Doug Adams and JJ Boggs. I've never met two people more dedicated to making Middlebury work.

I am very confident in Rachel Liddell's ability to lead the student government next year. She's going to do a great job. But she can't do it alone, and even the best SGA team in the world won't be able to help her if she wants to make the sorts of changes that a record number of student voters seem to want. She needs an actively engaged student body. She needs you.

Middlebury, thank you for these four years and for the opportunity to serve as your student government president this year. It has been an honor and a privilege.

Students elect representatives

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

academic year, as well as serving alongside students, faculty and staff as a member of the College's budgetary advisory committee.

"Sometimes it's hard for average students to have their voice heard, and I'm excited to be someone who can make my voice heard, and also someone who is willing to lend my voice to others," said Liddell.

Liddell made her decision to run for SGA President in March after repeated conversations with incoming Chief of Staff Danny Zhang '15.

"Finding Danny [marked the shift from] me having an ambition that I wanted to enact by myself into me having a team, and me having somebody who was willing to support me in a very real way," said Liddell.

Zhang feels that the biggest factor in Liddell's success was their campaign efforts early on in the election process.

"I think we had a really strong ground game going for us," said Zhang. "It was overall a really dynamic campaign with a lot of moving pieces, including social media, chalking, posters and just talking to people.

"From what I've seen, Rachel has an extremely driven personality," Zhang said. "She's very dedicated to what she does, and if she wants something, she'll do what it takes to get it done."

As advertised during her campaign, Liddell's primary platform issue is

to work with administrators to grant students academic credit for summer internships, arguing that the winter term internship policy, which grants general academic credit, should extend to summer opportunities as well.

"Many summer internships are unpaid, and that's disturbing," said Liddell. "On the one hand, it's negative to buy into that, and on the other hand, buying into it is inevitable, and we need to have those kinds of experiential learning moments in order to be qualified in the job market when we graduate."

Liddell's platform also includes reforming distribution requirements, addressing the role of social houses on campus, revamping course evaluations and reconsidering the efficacy of the Honor Code.

"I obviously am interested in making a difference here at Middlebury," said Liddell. "I am interested in impacting the issues that I am passionate about, and I think that a lot of students are passionate about these same issues."

In addition to the SGA presidential elections, elections took place for Student Co-Chair of the Community Council and SGA senators.

Luke Carroll Brown '13.5 will serve as Community Council Co-Chair. Caroline Zitin '14 was elected unopposed as Senior Senator, Nalia Jahan '15 will serve as Junior Senator for the full year while



Rachel Liddell '15 was elected to be SGA President next year with 772 votes.

Rana Abdelhamid '15 will serve during the fall semester. Hasher Nisar '16 and Conor Simons '16 will serve as Sophomore Senators. Evan Allis '15.5 and Joseph Leavenworth Bakali '15.5 were elected Feb Senators.

Commons Senators were elected as well. Alex Potter '16.5 will represent Atwater Commons, Josh Beerlowitz '16 will serve as Brainerd Senator, Taylor Custer '15 will be Ross Commons' Senator and Lisa Han '16 will serve as Wonnacott Senator.

Awards honor public service

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

by congratulating all student nominees.

"Public service and leadership are what the College has valued and celebrated for a very long time, [especially] for the last 20 years," he said. "The College is proud of the leaders it has produced in its graduates, dealing with community service, activism and innovation across a whole host of professions and societal interests."

Dean of the College Shirly Collado added, "This celebration is meant to shine the spotlight on all of you for your innovative programs and initiatives, your volunteerism, your commitment to diversity and inclusion, your advocacy, passion, enthusiasm and academic excellence."

Dean of the College Student Leadership Awards were presented first. Awards included the Angels Award, presented to Rana Abdelhamid '15; the Barbara J. Buchanan '62 Memorial Prize, given to Hillary Chutter-Ames '13; the Carri A. Smith '98 Award for Outstanding Commons Member which went to Harry Zieve Cohen '15; the First-Year Achievement Prize, presented to Hannah Root '15; the first annual Peter Kohn Service award, given to John Duvnjak '13 and Ellen Halle '13; and three different Charles P. Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life awards.

The Public Service Leadership Awards, which celebrated its 20th anniversary this year, were next presented by Director of Civic Engagement Tiffany Sargent and special guest Patrick J. Durkin '79, who established and underwrote the public service recognition program. Since then, the awards have honored over 700 students and have donated over \$41,000 to nonprofit organizations on the behalf of each student recipient who themselves designate the cause.

"Education is all about living a purposeful, meaningful life," Durkin remarked. "You take the skills of all of your academics and extracurricular work and you bring that all together to do something of purpose and value to make your community a little bit better everyday.

"That's what you do here ... to make this a school of character," he concluded.

Durkin, along with Sargent, honored eleven students and one student



Attendees enjoy refreshments at the student leadership awards ceremony in Atwater.

organization from among the dozens of nominees.

Luke Carroll Brown '14 was the recipient of the Dana Morosini Reeve '84 Memorial Public Service Award for his determination and focus on eradicating sexual violence on campus through the co-founding of It Happens Here.

"Real credit for It Happens Here goes to the many brave women and men who submitted stories," Carroll Brown commented.

He hopes to continue the work, as honored at the ceremony.

"We're already gearing up for next year and hopefully will move to other schools around the country."

The final awards, two joint Dean of the College and SGA Awards and five SGA awards, were presented by Chair of the SGA Constitution Committee Dan Tenner '13 and SGA Deputy Chief of Staff Brian Clow '13. Organizations honored included JusTalks for the Extraordinary Initiative Award, Stop Traffick for the Outstanding New Organization Award and Community Friends for the Outstanding Overall Achievement Award.

"We couldn't even begin to capture in these awards all the talent that exists on

campus," Collado expressed. "But this is a snapshot of some good work."

"This is an opportunity for students to see the best version of themselves and their capacity. To be agents of what they want the culture of this campus to be. And it's very powerful," she concluded.

"I didn't really know what to expect going into [the ceremony]," student nominee Zach Weiss '15 said. "But just being there and being in the presence of all of that positive energy and all of those wonderful people and leaders that are going so many places made me want to be even more of a leader."

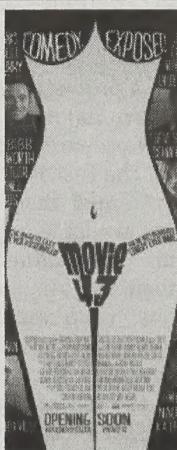
In addition to the Student Leadership Awards on Tuesday evening, staff and faculty have been honored in two separate receptions at Crossroads Café this week. The winner of the Rodney and Beverly DeGray Staff Appreciation award, College Horticulturalist Tim Parsons was honored on Tuesday afternoon. The winner of the Marjorie Lamberti Faculty Appreciation award, Associate Professor of Economics Jessica Holmes, was honored at a reception on Wednesday.

For more information on individual award recipients, visit go/studentleadershipawards.

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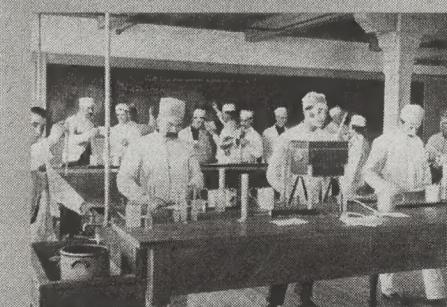
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Air Force delays Burlington F-35 decision until fall

By Conor Grant

The United States Air Force recently announced a postponement of plans to create a base for a number of F-35 fighter jets in Vermont. This announcement comes after months of debate about the suitability of Vermont as a home base for these planes.

Some Vermonters consider the selection of their state as the future home of these planes to be a tremendous honor, while others are worried that the planes will have a damaging impact on local communities.

The Air Force's decision to postpone the opening of their base at the Burlington International Airport was undertaken partially to enable the organization of an additional public written comment period over the course of this upcoming summer to enable the public to voice their opinions on the issue.

"The process continues to be transparent, deliberate and repeatable," said Major General Steven Cray, the adjutant general of the Vermont National Guard. "Which is the best way to give decision makers all of the relevant and appropriate information."

While the Netherlands, Canada, Turkey, Australia, Norway and Denmark have contributed a collective equivalent of \$4.375 billion toward the project, the United States is the primary financial backer of the roughly \$40 billion project.

Due to the financial and military importance of the fleet of F-35s to the United States military, discussion of an ultimate base for the aircraft began at an early stage.

Utah, Idaho, Florida, and South Carolina were also considered as potential host

states for the base of the new squadron of F-35s.

In deciding between these five states, Air Force officials had to weigh airport capacity, cost and other environmental factors. In order to minimize costs, they tapped into pre-existing Air National Guard units. This requirement further narrowed the field of potential base locations to Jacksonville, Fla., Columbia, S.C. and Burlington, which houses the Burlington Air Guard Station.

The military chose to proceed with preliminary plans to situate the F-35 base in Vermont despite a significant local opposition to the project for a number of reasons.

The military cites the existence of an F-16 program at Burlington International Airport and the ability to coordinate and train with Canadian F-18s as some of the benefits to creating a F-35 base in Vermont. Vermont's Green Mountain Boys — an accomplished state air militia dating back to 1946 — are an established air militia that will facilitate the establishment of an efficient and effective program. The pre-existing infrastructure and the access to training and support networks would make the project particularly cost-effective in Vermont.

F-35 advocates point to a number of other economic benefits to the program as justification for the jets in spite of their noise. Projections indicate that the F-35 program will create 266 new military jobs that will generate \$3.4 million in salaries.

Many of the proponents of the proposed F-35 program argue that the influx of the new planes will be an important way to ensure the continued vitality of Vermont's



COURTESY OF VPR

Burlington International airport may host a future squadron of F-35 fighter jets.

military in spite of budget cuts. A tentative Air Force budget for next year indicates a 5 percent cut in funding — which is a cause of concern for states like Vermont that have smaller military branches.

Attracting the F-35 program is significant not only because it brings a number of short-term economic benefits to the state, but also because it ensures the long-term presence of a robust military operation in Vermont.

"It's not just another year to year decision on where to put planes," said David Carle, a spokesman for Senator Patrick Leahy (D). "The F-35 changeover has been in the works for many years, and is changing the Air Force in many ways throughout the entire system."

Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy (D) saw the potential for an increased military presence in the state as a valuable opportunity for the state to remain involved in national military affairs.

"The F-35 is the Air Force's future," said Leahy. "And the Vermont Air Guard should be a vital part of the Air Force's future."

Not all people, however, are excited to see these changes — particularly over the skies of the Green Mountain State.

Critics of the F-35 project also believe that the military relied on flawed data, incorrect projections and political alliances to justify their decision. Opponents of the project claim that the placement of the coveted F-35 program in Vermont instead of a number of other suitable rural locations came about as a way to reward Vermont's Senator Leahy for his vocal support of the F-35 program in the Senate.

Allegations that the military relied on falsified data are secondary to what most Vermonters consider to be the primary complaint made by Vermonters that the noise generated by the jets will disrupt life on the ground in the three towns most affected directly by the noise — Burlington, South Burlington and Winooski.

Unlike other proposed sites for the base where civilians don't live in the area surrounding the airfield, the area around the Burlington International Airport is densely populated — so densely populated, in fact, that an estimated 7,000 Vermont-

ers will live within an area deemed by a commission of officials from the Pentagon and other agencies to be "incompatible for residential use."

People living under the direct space of these planes will likely experience a roar in excess of 65 decibels — which equates to the noise generated by freeway traffic, according to the Temple University Department of Civil/Environmental Engineering.

Residents of the high volume zones have also complained that the Air Force purposefully used outdated 2008 statistics rather than more recent 2011 statistics to downplay the size of the geographic area affected by the clamor of the jets.

Revised estimates of the environmental impact of the planes also predict that the planes will have a more damaging impact on air quality than was initially forecast, which has caused a wave of renewed protest within the state.

"Burlington was not the highest-rated base operationally or environmentally for the F-35," pointed out Rosanne Greco, a retired Air Force colonel and member of the South Burlington City Council.

Attitudes about the noise levels vary between the numerous cities considered for the base — and within those communities themselves. Although many residents in the high volume zones that will be affected by increased noise have argued that the din will disrupt their lives, others have indicated that they would be happy to put up with the extra noise to support the military.

Mitch Shaw, a journalist for the Utah *Standard-Examiner*, indicated that he and many of his Ogden, Utah neighbors would be happy to put up with the increased noise.

"It may be noisier than what we have now," said Shaw. "But it's the sound of freedom."

Despite continued protest from Vermonters living under the proposed flight path of the planes and the continued willingness of other communities to host the F-35s, the Air Force is projected to finalize its decision to establish the F-35 base in Burlington later this year.

In the event that Vermont is ultimately chosen as the home of the new F-35s, the squadron could take to the skies as early as 2015.



Brigadier General Steven Clay, left, spoke with Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin.

Montpelier artist defends T-shirts in Chick-fil-A suit

By David Ullmann

Bo Muller-Moore, a Montpelier-based design artist who created a popular "Eat More Kale" t-shirts, always hoped that his designs would grab people's attention, but he never expected his mantra to become so controversial.

The brainchild of a local Kale grower, these three words first appeared on a single t-shirt. This design grew increasingly popular and quickly became a local trend. Now, the slogan has become focus of a patent lawsuit by Chick-fil-A, a fast food giant that claims the phrase's similarity to their motto "Eat More Chickin" dilutes their marketing campaign.

Muller-Moore rejects Chick-fil-A's allegations. He claims that in all of his conversations about his T-shirts, overlap with Chick-fil-A has never come up before.

"I have attended hundreds of festivals and farmers markets and craft shows and I've had hundreds of thousands of conversations

about this one single design," said Muller-Moore. "Out of all those times Chick-fil-A was never brought up once."

Despite Muller-Moore's claims to the contrary, Chick-fil-A maintains that his slogan represents copyright infringement, and the company has urged Muller-Moore to cease and desist from his attempts to trademark this design.

Muller-Moore, however, is not backing down — and neither are his supporters.

Ben and Jerry's offered Muller-Moore an hour-long televised meeting to discuss his T-shirts and the integrity of his design.

Governor Peter Shumlin organized a press conference on his behalf.

Team Kale, a group of his more ardent fans, has already raised \$20,000 for his legal fees.

His advocates fight for more than a t-shirt. Weeks after the story gained national attention, an elderly Bennington veteran

wrote him a letter of which Muller-Moore is especially appreciative.

"It had saddened him so much that the US he had grown up in and fought for had come to a point where laws were now so skewed in favor of the rich and famous that the small and insignificant didn't even get a chance to blossom," said Muller-Moore.

"The trademark office now protects the marketing departments of billionaires," said Muller-Moore. "It does not protect consumers and it sure as hell does not protect the startups and the mom and pops."

Yet Muller-Moore sees a distinct social consciousness in his customers. To him, Vermont is an oasis of innovative entrepreneurship in a nation increasingly consumed by big business.

"My customers have come from those areas in which people [care] where their money goes," said Muller-Moore.

Muller-Moore describes himself as an

"accidental activist" — an individual who stumbled into social advocacy after an unexpected episode with Chick-fil-A.

"When I say 'Eat More Kale,' I don't specifically mean go out and eat loads more kale," said Muller-Moore. "What I mean by 'eat more kale' is spend some money at your local farmer's market, know where your coop is, know where the organic sections of your big box store is, go to potlucks that feature better dishes than just jello salads and tuna casseroles."

To Muller-Moore, "Eat More Kale" is more than a reminder to eat leafy greens. Both he and his supporters see the slogan as a rallying cry in the local-food movement's struggle against large-scale agri-business and a motto to live by.

"If you know what kale is or if you are keeping company with people that grow and eat kale you are probably making some good decisions in life," said Muller-Moore.

Weybridge to host spring feast



Local food enthusiasts gather in front of Weybridge House for a weekly meal, forming a large circle and exchanging names.

By Isaac Baker

On Sunday, May 12, Weybridge House will host its spring feast on the lawn at 28 Weybridge Street starting at 5 p.m. Having chosen a Mad Hatter Garden Party theme, organizers of the feast promise a bounty of local fare and what they hope will be an impressive array of headwear.

"I don't know where to find a hat," admitted Weybridge House resident Jeannie Bartlett '14. "Regardless of what I find, my expertise on the Mad Hatter Garden Party theme stems from when I played the 'Head Flower' in my second-grade play of Alice in Wonderland."

Yet the feast is not only about Lewis Carroll's wild garden vision; it will also provide an opportunity for relaxation and further enjoyment of local food for many in the community.

"Feast is a great opportunity for people to relax towards the end of the semester," said Christian Cain '13.5, the senior Community Advisor for Weybridge House. "Though we're a little late with feast this year, we're hopeful that people will push off finals prep just a little bit longer, throw on a hat and get down to Weybridge for a giant dinner."

According to Cain, there are typically between 200 and 300 feast-goers each semester, representing the largest celebrations of local food on campus to date. The only requirement for the event is that participants bring all of their own utensils and preferably don't take them from the dining hall. While Dining Services goes to great lengths to provide local food on regular basis, they are faced with the challenge of serving over 7,000 meals a day on a fixed budget. With funding from the SGA, Weybridge is able to offer these feasts once a semester to celebrate eating food that is locally grown (in a 100-mile-radius), in season, and highly nutritious.

The "farm liaison" for Weybridge House, Melissa Shapiro '13, has worked a great deal in the past weeks to source food from long-time Weybridge providers in the area, including Elmer Farm and

Gildrien Farm. In this way, Weybridge members are able to help distribute more of the college's food dollars to local growers, particularly to those that typically don't produce the volumes that Dining Services would be able to purchase.

"It's going to be an incredible local meal this year," said Cain. "Due to budget conservation in the fall, we're actually going to be able to incorporate some meat into the entrees, unlike in past years."

As animal products like meat and cheeses are often among the most expensive items to buy locally, they are rarely found in the Weybridge kitchen during the year; special events like the feast offer the house an opportunity to celebrate the carnivorous side of local eating that many

wish was more accessible.

"I always look forward to these special events with meat," said Weybridge resident Conor Wakayama '14. "I mean, I like the food we have at the house, but it sure is better with a little bacon."

Another new feature of this Mad Hatter Garden Party is music. Playing in their traditional bluegrass style, Nest 'O Rebels will perform on the lawn while feast-goers move through the buffet line and find their place to sit. This will be the band's second performance after playing at Brooker, Meeker and Porter's Rowdy Roast in April.

"We're very excited to have music this year," said Cain. "Local tunes, local fare — that's the kind of vibe we're going for. I can't wait to bust out a few moves on the lawn. I don't just like to dance, I love it."

In preparation for feast, the 18 Weybridge House members will set aside a great deal of time to prepare the quantities of food needed to feed such a gathering. Reaching out to Dining Services and other interest houses in the area, Weybridge residents, commonly known as "Weybeans," plan to fan out to various kitchens across campus to prepare all of the food.

"Cooking for 300 people in just a family-sized kitchen like ours is not that feasible," said Weybridge resident Katie Michels '14.5. "Cooking for 30 to 40 people during the week is alright, but for feast we really rely on support from other places on campus with kitchens."

One of the main dishes of the meal will be a savory flat bread prepared by Weybridge enthusiast Clare Donohue-Meyer '16 and Weybridge resident Bekah Wilson '14.

"I am so excited to try out a flatbread recipe based on a famous recipe of some baker friends at home," said Donohue-Meyer. "The recipe will incorporate thin potato slices and goat cheese into a delicious cheese experience."

The meal will also include bread, salad and other entrees along with a number of desserts like frozen yogurt with fruit.

"As God is my witness, we'll have local coffee," added Cain, "even if I have to coax it out of the ground with my bare hands."

Despite Cain's determination, his comment illustrates the challenges of providing an all-local meal: some staples simply cannot be sourced in a 100-mile-radius. Whether it is coffee, bananas or oranges, there are a number of familiar food items that won't be found at feast due to Vermont's cold climate.

"What we do want to do is celebrate the incredible bounty we have available in the area," said Michels. "While farmers haven't begun to harvest most of their produce for the season, there are still a number of spring greens available; and as always, we have Vermont meat and dairy to enjoy!"

"When it comes down to it, my favorite part of feast is that there's sun and food and music and we all lounge happily on the lawn with so many smiling faces," said Bartlett. "I just hope the cooks get to eat first."



FEAST-GOERS ENJOY THE 2009 LOCAL FEAST.

LOCAL LOWDOWN 24

Senior Luncheon & Bingo in Middlebury

CVAA will bingo this coming Friday for any interested community members. A luncheon will follow the game, featuring pork chow mein, vegetable rice pilaf, Japanese blend vegetables and Mandarin oranges. CVAA encourages a donation of \$4. Organizers ask that you bring your own plate, fork, spoon and cup. Reservations required for this event.

For more information, call 1-800-642-5119, ext. 634.

MAY 10, 10:30 A.M. - 1 P.M.

Brandon to Host the College's Community Chorus

The Brandon Town Hall will host the College's community chorus, including singers from the faculty, student body and the larger community. These singers will be accompanied by Tim Guiles and a chamber orchestra that will include area instrumentalists. Donations from the evening's event will benefit the town hall's restoration project.

For more information, call 443-6433 or visit go.middlebury.edu/arts.

MAY 10, 7:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

Food for Life Preview Class in Middlebury

Certified Food for Life cooking instructor and Level 1 diabetes educator Beth Perera will come to Middlebury this coming Saturday to offer a free cooking class. The class will serve as a preview of the various wellness classes she teaches professionally.

Register online at <http://foodforlifepreviewmiddlebury.eventbrite.com>.

MAY 11, 6:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

Monthly Wildlife Walk in Middlebury

This walk is the most recent monthly installment organized by OCAS-MALT. Organizers of the walk invite community members to help survey birds and other wildlife as they meander. The group will meet at Otter View Park parking area at the corner of Weybridge Street and Pulp Mill Bridge Road. Beginner birders are welcome.

For more information, call 388-1007 or 388-6829.

MAY 11, 6:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

Silent Screening of "Peter Pan" in Brandon

The Brandon Town Hall Theater will screen the 1924 silent version of Peter Pan, accompanied by live music by Jeff Rapsis. Admission is free, but donations to the town hall restoration fund are appreciated.

For more information, visit www.brandontownhall.org.

MAY 11, 8 A.M. - 10 A.M.

Mother's Day Breakfast in Vergennes

St. Peter's parish will host a Mother's Day breakfast buffet this coming Sunday. Admission for adults is \$8, seniors \$7, kids 6-12 \$6, kids under 6 free and families of five or more \$27. Bring deposit bottles to support the church's Youth Ministry.

MAY 12, 8 A.M. - 10 A.M.

OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

From divestment to dorm damage, a year in review

Each academic year at Middlebury is slightly different from the previous one. While the College could not run without the hard work of faculty, staff and administrators, it is the student body that ultimately sets the agenda and tone for each year. In other words, students define Middlebury.

EDITORIAL
The editorial represents the official opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* as decided by the editorial board.

At liberal arts institutions like ours, students have the unique opportunity to influence the content and style of their learning experience by expressing their interests both inside and outside of the classroom.

Over the course of this year, we have seen student initiative shape the discourse on campus to a meaningful degree.

When used responsibly, the power of students can

be a strong and beneficial force for the community, as was often the case this year. For example, it is thanks to the hard and persistent work of many students that conversations sur-

rounding divestment have become much more informed over the course of the year. In the past eight months, we have seen divestment transform from a small movement pushed forward by self-proclaimed activists in a manner that has, at times, detracted from the message to an issue that has been discussed widely and constructively and, according to the SGA survey, is now supported by the majority of the student body. Whether you are in support of divestment or not, it is clear that the issue has remained in the forefront of dialogue throughout the year, due in large part to overwhelming student initiative.

Another issue that students have pushed to the forefront of the agenda this year is local food. Programs like Eat Real have worked hard to ensure that this remains on the minds of both students and administrators.

Other students have used their agenda-setting power to highlight some harsh realities that are important to address on campus. The organizers of this year's It Happens Here event, for example, worked tirelessly to ensure that addressing sexual assault remains a priority for the college community. In a similar vein, Student Wellness Leaders worked tirelessly to ensure students' wellbeing was not forgotten in the absence of an administrative health and wellness director.

It is clear that many students have set a positive tone for this year by exercising their power responsibly. However, we have also seen instances when such power has been used in the wrong way — when it is taken for granted as a privilege.

Some of these cases can be considered as forms of "negative activism," in which students make choices

that negatively affect campus life. For example, recent weeks have seen a renewed attention to a form of destruction that has plagued our campus for years — tree vandalism. And it is not just trees that are being vandalized. Although students are given four years of high-quality housing, dorm damage remains a large problem on campus. Community Council recommended Delta's disbandment due to the thousands of dollars worth of damage Prescott House incurred. The damage was compounded by Delta's stubborn refusal to work within the system to repair damage and train their members. At Middlebury, we are also lucky to have a flexible dining plan that allows students much freedom. Students are even allowed to take dishes out of the dining halls. However, students often take this privilege for granted. Dishes are left in dorm rooms and classrooms. They can even be found in the trash.

Actions such as these demonstrate that we still have work to do in terms of respecting our surroundings and holding ourselves accountable. We have the power to define the school and to influence what students learn here, but we must ensure that we are doing so in a positive way.

As the school year comes to a close, we must look to the future. How will Middlebury students characterize the 2013-2014 academic year? Will we continue working to engage the student body on issues that matter to us, as so many students have done this year? Or will next year be defined by exorbitant amounts of dorm damage, dining halls without dishes and an increasing number of honor code violations? Ultimately, the answer lies with us — it is up to the students to decide.

A signed professor evaluation

Professors have a unique and important place in a student's life. We should never underestimate the deep and at times life-long impact of the student-teacher relationship. Yet although the role of professors exists both in the classroom and in an advisory capacity, it seems that many are unaware of the importance of the latter role.

I am a senior at a highly ranked liberal arts institution, and one of the wonderful opportunities it affords is undergraduate research. There are no graduate students pursuing masters or PhDs, so we mere bachelors candidates are able to work directly with professors on interesting and innovative projects. In the political science department we are given the option of writing an honors-level thesis — three semesters of research compiled into

100 pages, give or take, of quantitative and qualitative analysis. Despite years of paper-writing and exam-taking, this is no easy feat. We have not been trained in rigorous research methods nor are we by any means experts in our field of study. Yet we are capable of producing high-caliber work with the professional guidance of our advisers and readers. The thesis adviser-advisee relationship is a close one — they are a team. As such, the relationship requires collaboration, commitment and compromise: a marriage of minds, so to speak. As with any relationship, a certain amount of struggle is expected, but as any academic will attest, nothing worth achieving was ever done without overcoming a few obstacles.

At the end of January, I broke my relationship with my then-thesis adviser when, after putting in months of work, he attempted to put an end to my research endeavors. He assured me of my incapacity to develop a product of substance and the imminent failure that awaited me. Speaking in what he said was my best interest he offered to downgrade my thesis to a research project; since the standards of grading were much lower, he said that I could put in less effort and achieve a better grade.

My former thesis adviser almost convinced me to give up. But after 12 years of schooling and four years of determination, hard work and success in college, I realized that now was

"At the end of the year we are asked to evaluate the quality of our professors. With this experience looming over me, I take the opportunity to further question how we evaluate our professors."

a hell of a time to decide to lose faith in myself. In my final letter to him, I explained that I am very capable of producing high-caliber work, that I deserve to work with someone who will support me in my endeavors and that I believed given his pessimism toward me that it was in both our best interests to discontinue working together. What I received in return was a snide remark: This is fine with me. I hope you're correct.

At the end of the year we are asked to evaluate the quality of our professors. With this experience looming over me, I take the opportunity to further question how we evaluate our professors.

This past year, a professor of mine — passionate, engaged and beloved by students, who inspired me to conduct my current research — was denied tenure on the basis (as far as I am aware) that he had failed to meet the quota of published research. Following his dismissal, over 200 students signed a petition directed to the College's board of trustees expressing their shock, bewilderment and disappointment at its choice to let go of a professor who had so deeply influenced and encouraged our young academic community. He is gone, and students continue to struggle to understand how our institution, which first and foremost is concerned with the education of its students, could devalue the importance of a professor who encouraged student growth through the academic process.

This is not necessarily a widespread problem. The professors that helped me through to May 3, the day I handed in my 95-page thesis to the political science department, were flexible, invested and put the learning process first — no matter how slow and inefficient the writing process. They reminded me what I should have known the moment I was denied an opportunity to grow as an academic: education is a process, mistakes are inevitable and rest assured, no one who was afraid of failure ever learned anything. And although I recognize my experience was extreme, I am not alone in feeling that many professors accept advisory roles without understanding what this relationship entails, and how important it is in shaping students' academic experience.

My former adviser may be a qualified academic but I cannot in good conscious call him an educator. I can only hope that the College will find the wisdom to promote the development of both professorial roles and advocate for our education.

Here's to you!

The *Campus* would like to thank all of the valuable op-ed submissions that were received this year. The thoughtful responses to pertinent issues happening on campus helped make these opinion pages a platform for meaningful dialog. We look forward to hearing from you next year.

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. The Campus will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. The Campus reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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The rainbow funeral

May 2012, I was elected to be a new Middlebury Open Queer Alliance (MOQA) President, or "President of the gays" as one of my exchange friends used to call me in her strong Russian accent. It was a very random decision of mine and

I accepted the role with a lot of excitement; over the summer I designed the leaflets and planned some events for the upcoming year. In the fall, I managed to bring a drag performer from Germany and organized some parties. While the parties were certainly not the best, the

stripping woman in Crossroads gained a lot of attention. I was pumped about the semester, but I should have seen the decay.

I am talking about the inherent problems of many student organizations on this campus: free-riding. MOQA has been facing decreasing membership activity for a long time. It was almost always about three student leaders organizing all the activities. Attendance at the meetings was the most obvious problem. We went from seniors checking out "fresh meat" in the beginning of the semester to maybe 10 active members and then to three co-chairs meeting with two or three other people. I talked to other student leaders; supposedly this problem is not MOQA-only. Do we then par-

ticipate in some student orgs just to have something cool on our résumés? Probably not, but it is one of the factors. What then does membership mean? Being on an email list?

I saw the problem, so I created a survey for MOQA members. I mostly asked what they want to improve, what they dislike and what they like. We got 22 answers; some of them were creative, while some asked us to do more activi-

"At our last meeting, the active members discussed the future of MOQA and unanimously voted in favor of disbanding it. I believe that it will be a merciful death to this organization that no longer seems to be wanted on campus."

ism without explaining how to accomplish that. I guess that we should make everyone wear pink T-shirts to show their support for our poor group since this campus is so oppressive. I expected people to come to discuss what they wanted since we showed a will to change. But no, just the few loyal members showed up. Despite the disinterest, we organized

more events during Gaypril than in the past few. We brought Leslea Newman for \$1500 and advertised it. Four people showed up. We had a talk about HIV/AIDS. Three people showed up. No one showed up for our screenings. Nobody is running for our next elections.

After that, I just completely gave up. It is a waste of time to organize events for the less than 10 people who come to the meetings. Throughout the year a lot of my friends complained that we don't organize any parties anymore or that we need more hang-outs. I told them to come to meetings and propose it, but nobody did. They claimed they felt too uncomfortable there. Man, I do too sometimes. You think we are overly academic? Me too. I feel unwanted, useless and upset, and I also got a shiny rainbow sticker for being a MOQA co-chair.

Thus I would like to announce a disbandment of MOQA as a student organization. At our last meeting, the active members discussed the future of MOQA and unanimously voted in favor of disbanding it. I believe that it will be a merciful death to this organization that no longer seems to be wanted on campus. We submit to market forces; no demand shuts us down.

Hail to the first top liberal arts school without any LG-BTQA group on campus, yet we have affirmative action! And we can only blame ourselves and our allies for this. Myself included.

GUNS OUT: THE SERIOUS BUSINESS OF SYRIAN BLOODSHED

I've been writing this column for the whole of this school year. During that entire time there has been one conflict of major international importance which somehow has never been quite topical

enough for me to discuss in depth. I refer, of course, to the civil conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic. Since the height of the Arab Spring (or awakening if you must) in

2011, President Bashar al-Assad – who used to work as an optician in London not too far from where I live – has been resisting a popular uprising that seeks to overturn his regime and replace it with a more democratic alternative. His resistance has been brutal: air strikes and mass bombardments are often used against his own citizens. Scary recent accounts even mention his deployment of chemical weapons. The dynamic behind the power struggle is far more complex than in many of the other countries in that region. The majority of Syria's population is Sunni whereas the leading family and the rest of the elite are Shi'ite. The Shi'ite are backed by Iran. The Sunni are backed by the Saudis and, by proxy, the United States.

Calls for intervention are not new, but the haunting rumor of chemical warfare – the usage of a certain Sarin element – make them extremely audible right now. Going to war in other lands and fighting for the causes of others has been the bane of U.S. and other western forces in recent military history (Think Vietnam and Iraq). Therefore, it is understandable why the Obama administration has been reluctant to engage thus far. They keep hinting at ultimatums but each and every time Assad & Co. go too far – for example by using weapons of mass destruction against his own people, innocent human beings – the U.S. announces that it needs to reconsider further. The embarrassing double standards that have been displayed by NATO by defeating Gaddafi but perversely standing idly by Assad's massacres demonstrate not only moral hypocrisy but genuine cowardice. Why lie to ourselves that we intervene on humanitarian grounds? We intervene only when power can be displayed, military muscles flexed; "guns out" in all respects.

It will be very curious, but unsurpris-

ing, if Syria is attacked, but a recent air-strike suggests Israel may already have started. Iran, it is presumed, will hover with possibly semi-developed nuclear weapons defending their only true ally's interest. Russia, although it has pretty adamantly defended Syria's sovereignty up to this point, would most probably stand aside in the event of any real conflict. Although the standard moral assumption that the "little people" are being slaughtered by the crazy, all-powerful despot paints a pretty clear picture of right or wrong, it is unclear as to who exactly the West would be helping. It is widely known that al-Qaeda has allied to the cause of the rebels. Another strange phenomenon has been the flight of many Europeans to join the cause and fight for the rebels. This supra-national cause has echoes of the Spanish Civil War, although the underlying tension here seems to be religious not political. We would be supporting Sunnis, some radical, versus Shi'ites.

If the United States and its allies don't want to risk another failed intervention and avoid another potential radical Islamic state, then they must support a tyrant. If as a democracy the U.S.

want to be moral and righteous, then should support the rebels at great military cost as well as potentially supporting even greater enemies. It's the definition of a lose-lose situation. To justify the first they need only recall the disastrous venture into Iraq although the pressure for this one is far greater. And as a reminder to the dangers of supporting militants who share a common enemy but no common goals, cue Afghanistan circa 1985 when the U.S. funded Al-Qaeda predecessors in war against the Soviets.

As a solution to this gruesome dilemma I suggest the West risk it. We know for sure that Assad massacres and will continue to massacre his citizens. We do not know how costly intervention will be, either in terms of short-term cost or long-term outcome. Let us focus on what we do know, not on hypotheticals; let us do what we know to be right and save lives. At least 70,000 have died thus far, and many, many more have been displaced. This won't be another Afghanistan or Libya; Syria is a capable military power. And in the long-run this would only be a first step towards the inevitable showdown with Iran that has been brewing ever since the revolution of 1979.

"If the United States and its allies don't want to risk another failed intervention and avoid another potential radical Islamic state, then they must support a tyrant."

Let direct democracy replace the SGA

Student government at Middlebury is currently based on the principle of representative government; we elect a handful of senators with whom we entrust our decision-making power. Beyond voting every spring, the average Middlebury student does not participate at all in the process of student government. This idea of democratic representation is one of the most common forms of government in the world, so much so that when people today talk about "democracy" they are almost always referring to this representative system. For modern nation-states, this is essential; they are so large that traditional town hall or Greek city-state democracy would be impractical and impossible. But for the Middlebury student body, is this really the case? Are we really so large a community that participatory democracy would not work? Replacing the Student Government Association (SGA) with a government body made up of whoever wants to show up, debate and vote, overseen perhaps by an elected steering committee to provide structure, would not only be entirely possible at Middlebury, but would be beneficial.

In fact, after setting aside my biases of what modern "democracy" looks like, it is quite surprising to me that our student body does not have a directly participatory government. In general, Middlebury touts the degree to which students form an active and involved community, the administration makes an effort to get student input on an impressive range of issues and campus-wide movements like the divestment campaign demonstrate a genuine interest that many students have in affecting change at the College. What's more, the community in which we live, the town of Middlebury, has a thriving form of participatory democracy. Like towns all across New England, Middlebury has regular town hall meetings where anybody can debate and vote on important local issues. If the town can do this, despite being more than three times our size, why can't we?

But even if we can all agree it is possible, why do we need to change the SGA? In my opinion, the major flaw with our current system became obvious over our brief election season; there are people who want to participate in government, and who have unique and valuable ideas, who are needlessly turned away. What do we gain from this? If all the interested candidates were just all allowed to participate in government, without any election, would our student government all of a sudden become large, slow

and ineffective? Of course not. Then why do we shut them out with our representative system? Even if every student who wanted could show up and be a member of the SGA, would it slow past the point of effectiveness? Probably not. So, what do we gain in shutting people out? Rather than truly representing the interests of the student body, all our current system does is pick a few winners whose views will be represented and ignores the rest. Why? Rather than having to compromise on one candidate's basket of ideas, some of which we share some of which we don't, couldn't we just represent ourselves? I believe that a participatory system would allow our government to consider all viewpoints and, through open discussion and direct democracy, implement the best ideas that most accurately represent the interests of the student body.

It is important to consider, however, several drawbacks of direct democracy and how a new student government system could address these concerns. First, for the most controversial issues on campus, there is a risk of debate deteriorating into useless arguing if enough passionate people show up. This is the most compelling argument for representative government, even though such issues will most likely only come up once or twice a year. The rest of the time direct democracy faces the opposite issue: apathy. If our government is made up of whoever wants to show up, what do we do if no one wants to show up? Or, what about the issues that have only a few passionate supporters? These make direct democracy a vehicle for pet projects that are really not the business of the whole student body, and puts us at risk of having no one to handle the boring legislation that the SGA still needs to handle. However, both the issues of too much involvement and too much apathy have a simple solution: an elected steering committee and president to facilitate productive debate and ensure that at least a few people are accountable at all times. I believe that this solution offers the stability and consistency of our current system while still allowing everyone to participate in improving Middlebury. I hope that the new SGA takes this proposition seriously and takes time to consider why we have a representative system rather than letting students directly represent themselves.

EYES ON THE OUTSIDE

Jack George '16 is from London, U.K.

READER OP-ED

Carter Merenstein '16 is from Ambler, Pa.

LAYING PIPE IN ADDISON COUNTY

This week, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz released a statement reiterating the College's support for the Vermont Gas pipeline. This comes in the face of motivated and organized student and community opposition that has made its presence well known over the last few weeks. This decision repudiates the state's ban on hydraulic fracturing by supporting a pipeline that

will carry natural gas produced by the process across Vermont. It is also the right thing to do; it is the right thing for Middlebury

College, the town of Middlebury and the state of Vermont.

I could spend pages debating the merits of fracking. It has become a dirty word within the environmental movement, and it is an undeniable fact that fracking has an environmental impact. Yet the severity of that impact has been overstated. Natural gas has replaced coal as the go-to method

of electrical generation in the United States. This is a step forward; natural gas contains half the carbon dioxide and none of the particulate emissions of coal. Natural gas extraction, through hydraulic fracturing or any other means, has less of an impact on the landscape than the strip mining and mountaintop removal used to produce coal.

In this case, the gas delivered by the pipeline would mainly replace the fuel oil and propane that Vermont residents use to heat their homes. The process of producing either of these is no less fraught with pollution and environmental degradation than fracking. Propane is a byproduct of — surprise — natural gas or petroleum refining. Fuel oil is a similar, dirty leftover of this process. As conventional sources of oil disappear, oil companies increasingly turn to oil sand and oil shale. I don't need to sell anybody at Middlebury on the harms of oil sand extraction, and oil from shale is produced by a mechanism similar to fracking for natural gas. Whether or not Addison County allows the pipeline, then, its residents will rely on the byproducts of the technological achievement that is fuel extraction through hydraulic fracturing.

The construction of the pipeline will give more than 3,000 area homeowners and a number of local businesses the option to select a fuel that is both cleaner and

"At its heart, this is not an environmental issue — although it represents an improvement — but an issue of poverty and economic opportunity."

wages for their employees or can mean more room in the budget for new hires. When we oppose projects like this, we effectively draw a fence around the area for businesses looking to move in.

I'm sympathetic to the plight of property owners who do not want to see the pipeline run by their houses. It is important that Vermont Gas take steps to reduce the risk and disturbance they will face in its construction and operation. The town of Cornwall, for example, is considering an ordinance that requires the pipeline to pass 300 feet from any structure of high consequence to avoid the extremely minimal but present risk of an explosion. Any other negative impact from the project will be temporary; once built, the pipeline will run three to five feet underground, and farmers will be able to grow crops on top of it.

The pipeline will bring biomethane to the College to satisfy its carbon neutrality pledge and cheaper, cleaner fuel to customers throughout Addison County. Vermont State Government's vote to ban hydraulic fracturing was nothing more than a symbolic measure; there are no natural gas reserves in the state and no danger of fracking nearby. We should not turn down the possibilities the pipeline brings over a symbolic quibble over the origin of the product it will carry.

cheaper. At current prices, a homeowner who switches from fuel oil or propane would save between \$1,300 and \$1,400 per year. In a county where the median household income is \$57,000 per year, this represents a two percent total savings — a difference that only gets greater when considered for those with lower income. At its heart, this is not an environmental issue, but an issue of poverty and economic opportunity. Eleven percent of Addison County residents live below the poverty line. For these residents, a difference of more than \$1,000 is a huge quality of life improvement. It means car repairs, more food on the table or summer camp for their kids. It means more money in the pockets of local businesses and lower costs for local schools. Even if the price of natural gas were to suddenly jump, it's likely that fuels like propane and fuel oil would follow and price savings would remain substantial.

The pipeline is also an issue of economic development.

Those savings for an average household will scale up many times for businesses like Cabot, Porter Hospital or Otter Creek Brewery in Middlebury. Lower heating costs for them mean higher

Weighing in on the weight of neutrality

News of the new Vermont Gas pipeline and the College's announced endorsement of the project has created quite the stir among the community — and rightfully so. For a quick summary of the debate, see the dialogue that has taken shape between Zach Drennen '13.5 and Cailey Cron '13.5 and Anna Shireman-Grabowski '15.5 within the columns of this section over the past few weeks. Both sides bring valid points and sound arguments to the table, and this week, I'll do my best to show why the discourse represents exactly what the decision-making processes concerning issues like carbon neutrality needs: emphatic, concerned, critical judgements.

To begin, I agree with Cron and Shireman-Grabowski. In no way do I think propagation of natural gas — much less fracked gas — puts us on a track toward sustainable development or energy independence. In a life before Middlebury, I went to school for a year in New York's Southern Tier, right on top of the Marcellus Shale — fracking ground zero. If there's anywhere that can provide a look at the way in which political vitriol permeates the present discourse on natural gas extraction — like, well, the way fracking chemicals permeate shale rock — it's there. For every environmentalist adamantly against the development of natural gas resources, there's a lower-middle-to-lower-class "Average Joe" who believes with every fragment of their being that gas wealth and all its benefits is their fast lane to the American Dream. That's not to say that the average American's opinion isn't misinformed or painfully unaware of the other economically viable alternatives to fossil fuel development, because that may very well be the case. I do think, however, that Drennen tries to make the point that we can't immediately vilify the average American because of concern for those things closest to them, but rather that we should approach problems like this with open ears and open minds. This is especially true if we have vested interests in the matter, as is the case with carbon neutrality.

With that said, Cron and Shireman-Grabowski are right in pointing out that there are far better ways to provide energy savings than building a pipeline. Simple home improvement projects can often result in significant reductions in operating costs and energy efficiency. However, I think we sometimes take for granted how well Vermonters know this, as well as how politically active and well-informed they

are. Considering our own knowledge of the alternatives to a new pipeline, the College's continued support of the pipeline would represent nothing short of a public disservice to the people of Vermont.

The issue becomes slightly more complicated, though, when we consider whether or not opposing a pipeline means opposing biomethane. From my own involvement with and knowledge of the College's carbon neutrality progress, the biomethane project would not, on its own, make us carbon neutral. Would it provide a viable means of replacing the 1,000,000 gallons of fuel oil we still burn every year? Yes, but there's more to our carbon

footprint than that. While it would only be one piece of the solution, it would be a pretty important one. It's a shame that there may not be another feasible way of utilizing a new, truly clean technology like biomethane. Unless some benefactor-to-the-rescue willing to fund the construction of a Middlebury-to-Salisbury pipeline (to be used exclusively for the transport of biomethane) or an on-campus storage facility comes on to the scene, I don't know if I could rightfully support biomethane as a viable step towards carbon neutrality. If we're going to do carbon neutrality, let's make sure to do it right.

If anything, this whole debate illuminates a point I spoke on in a column concerning this same topic earlier this year. In order for carbon neutrality at Middlebury to work, we, the students, the community, need to take ownership of it and responsibility for it. And that's what's happening here. This discourse is the practical application of everything we're supposed to be learning about in the classroom — critical thinking and all that jazz. However, I don't know if value judgments — like deciding what it means to be carbon neutral — can be made through cost-benefit analysis. If carbon neutrality at Middlebury is supposed to set some kind of precedent, which I assume it is, then we better make sure that however we go about doing it projects the values and virtues we want it to. I'll assume environmental degradation isn't what we hope to accomplish through becoming carbon neutral. We become like our virtues through our actions, and our actions alone. There's no room in there for asymmetry.

GREEN PIECE

Julian Macrone '14 is from Clifton, N.J.

A dry wit

Our chosen school is pretty big on tradition. Every year, graduating Febs ski down the Snow Bowl in their gowns. Every year, when springtime hits full bloom the Adirondack chairs come out. Every year, the homecoming football game tailgate blows up, DKE throws a righteous party and everybody wins.

But one of the best traditions of all takes place in the classroom: every year, Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science Murray Dry teaches classrooms full of jaw-dropped students, aweing them with his erudition and the sheer vastness of his intellect. Murray Dry is one of the things that makes Middlebury so special, and it's worthwhile to think about why his presence is so valuable.

I am currently taking my first Dry course: Modern Political Philosophy. We read Machiavelli, Montesquieu, Locke, Marx — all the goodies. Many of these books I had considered reading in my free time or even attempted to delve into, mostly without success. But reading them in a class with Murray Dry there to dive headfirst into all the intricacies, to untangle all the intellectual knots in their thought and explore the deeper questions they bring to bear is a completely invaluable experience.

The man is a teacher par excellence. He's been teaching at Middlebury since 1968, and the Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science since 1994. His curriculum vitae is 15 pages long, for Pete's sake. Let me put it this way: when my mother came to Middlebury in 1974, Dry was already an institution. She took his class on Constitutional Law and he was the reason she went to law school.

On the first day of class, I had no idea what I was getting myself into. I had been told by a number of grizzled Dry veterans that I needed to be on my toes: Murray Dry teaches using the Socratic Method. He doesn't wait for hands — he picks students out of the crowd to call on. Not "what year did Columbus sail the ocean blue" but "Mr. Cunningham, how does Montesquieu's notion of virtue contrast with that of Machiavelli?"

You better do every page of reading for a Dry class, because if he catches you with your pants down and the reading undone, your shame will be very public and your justice swiftly dealt.

There are classes where kids don't care about the reading, where not having done the homework is a badge of honor, a designator of too-cool-for-school-ness. None of those classes are taught by Murray Dry.

"You better do every page of reading for a Dry class, because if he catches you with your pants down and the reading undone, your shame will be very public and your justice swiftly dealt."

He yells, screams, laughs uproariously and makes you think. But most importantly, Dry somehow makes you care. It's not about his formidable resume or his professorial looks (the chalk-stained tweed jacket is exactly how I pictured my college professors looking) — it's the man's passion for the material he teaches. He cares so incredibly much about this stuff that it's plain impossible not to get wrapped up in it yourself. He cares more about Montesquieu than I cared when the Denver Nuggets got knocked out of the playoffs recently and more than a tearful Terrell Owens cared when the press went after Tony Romo, his quarterback.

We have an elderly auditor in our class, Jack Goodman. He has audited Dry classes for 12 years now, and the other day he told me a story that captures the essence of what I'm getting at: last year, he went to Dry's office a little over an hour before a class and found an unkempt Dry deep in the day's reading, his desk piled with books underlined in and scribbled on so many times in so many different colors of ink it looked more like a handwritten manuscript than a canon of literature. He was met with a terse reply when he asked how Dry was "can't talk, I need to prepare for this class."

After more than 40 years of teaching, reading the same book for the umpteenth time, Murray Dry didn't have a minute to spare because his priority was preparing for class. Not researching, not private studies, but teaching.

I have had more fun reading Montesquieu with Murray Dry than I have hiking, than I have partying, than I have eating hard-earned Grille food at 1:57 a.m. on a Saturday night. Somehow your pride gets wrapped up in the work, and when Dry asks some absurd question you want to know the answer, you need to, because on some level you know that you're never going to get as much intellectual stimulation from anything as you're getting from the Doctor Dry.

We all go to Middlebury. Simply by getting accepted into this stupidly difficult school, we have established that we are go-getters. We solve problems. We accept challenges and we defeat them.

So I say now to every first-year, just as my mother said to me on Day 1: take a Murray Dry course. We came here to learn, so learn from the best.

RED'S RANT

Caleb Cunningham '14 is from Boulder, Colo.

Time to lead on divestment

This weekend, the Middlebury College board of trustees may decide whether or not to divest our endowment of holdings in fossil fuels and arms manufacturing.

This community has engaged in conversations about divestment since September. Questions have been raised about the potential financial impact of divestment and whether it will be effective in addressing the challenges we face. These concerns are valid and these conversations have led to productive debate.

While I don't like to make a habit of trying to scare others into action, we cannot continue having these conversations as though the issues we are discussing can be addressed on a "reasonable" timeline. If we continue working on our timeline we will end up with a planet that is incompatible with human life.

I have been away from Middlebury this semester. I spent a short amount of my time in Appalachia, where people's struggle against the destruction of their land and communities due to mountain top removal, coal mining and hydraulic fracturing feels like a war. The West Virginians I met were fighting for the right to live their lives. This sounds like an exaggeration; it is not.

I also met individuals from First Nations communities and indigenous peoples whose rights continue to be disregarded in the interest of extracting and transporting fossil fuels. If studying history at Middlebury has taught me anything, it's that the treatment of indigenous peoples in this country has been shameful. And if my time off has taught me anything, it's that continuing to allow the fossil fuel industry free reign to "negotiate"

over land rights with indigenous peoples is not going to end this systematic silencing and disenfranchisement.

I am sharing these stories because I believe what the board of trustees does here, now, at this week's board meeting, will demonstrate whether or not Middlebury College is a leader. We are setting our priorities with the use of our resources. And we can choose to manage our endowment in a way that creates real change.

We do not know for sure that the divestment tactic will work as it did during South Africa's apartheid regime, if it will diminish exploitative forces' ability to harm people and the planet. However, from all of our conversations, we do know that on our end, the risk is limited.

And we know that leaders, those on the right side of history, act decisively in the name of justice, of what is right. This community has decided that the exploitation of peoples and the destruction of our planet are wrong. We believe a statement from the board that aligns our practices with our beliefs is right.

Middlebury College has stated its commitment to being a community and environmental leader. Board of trustees: it's time to lead.

Join the Middlebury community for a board of trustees tailgate at 3 p.m. on Friday, with speakers and photos at 4:30 p.m. Visit <http://divestforourfuture.tumblr.com> for details.

READER OP-ED

Greta Neubauer '14.5 is from Racine, Wisconsin

FACULTY, STAFF, AND ALUMNI IN FAVOR OF FOSSIL FUEL DIVESTMENT

As Middlebury faculty and staff, we hope our trustees will commit to fossil-fuel divestment and a new kind of investment, investment that yields high returns and embodies the promise of this challenging age.

Health technologies designed to perform miracles; clean-energy electricity for the world's poorest; new financial instruments for striving small businesses: let's invest Middlebury's money this way, not in the clutter and peril of fossil fuels.

We respect the trustees' stewardship of our institution, an institution for which we have the highest aspirations. We suspect that most board members support a new approach to college investing, with one hesitation: it's complicated. It might even mean changing Middle-

bury's relationship with Investiture.

To that we say: "Bring it on!" After all, the transition to a better global economy will be easy for no one. Let's show the investment community, the academic community and the global community that it can be done. In so doing, we'll be on the right side of history, embracing the best economics and displaying the values of our mission: "leadership in a rapidly changing global community."

Divestment can mean a new kind of investment. Wouldn't that be a celebration of the liberal arts in action?

Faculty and staff signatories:

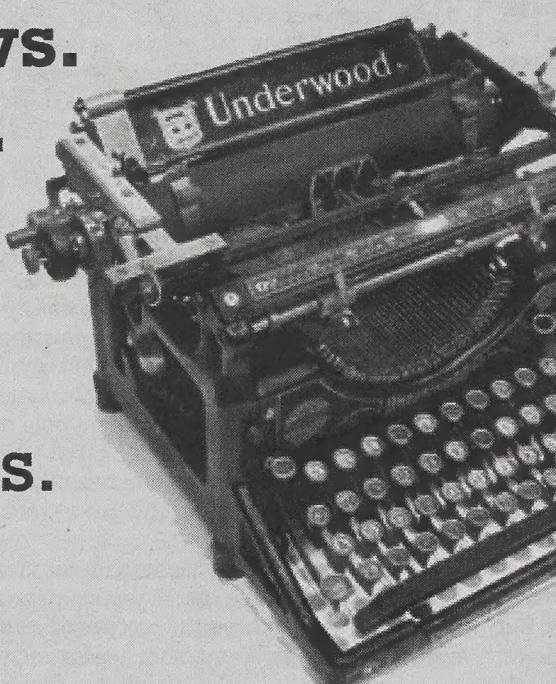
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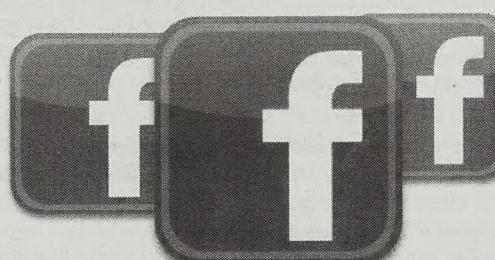
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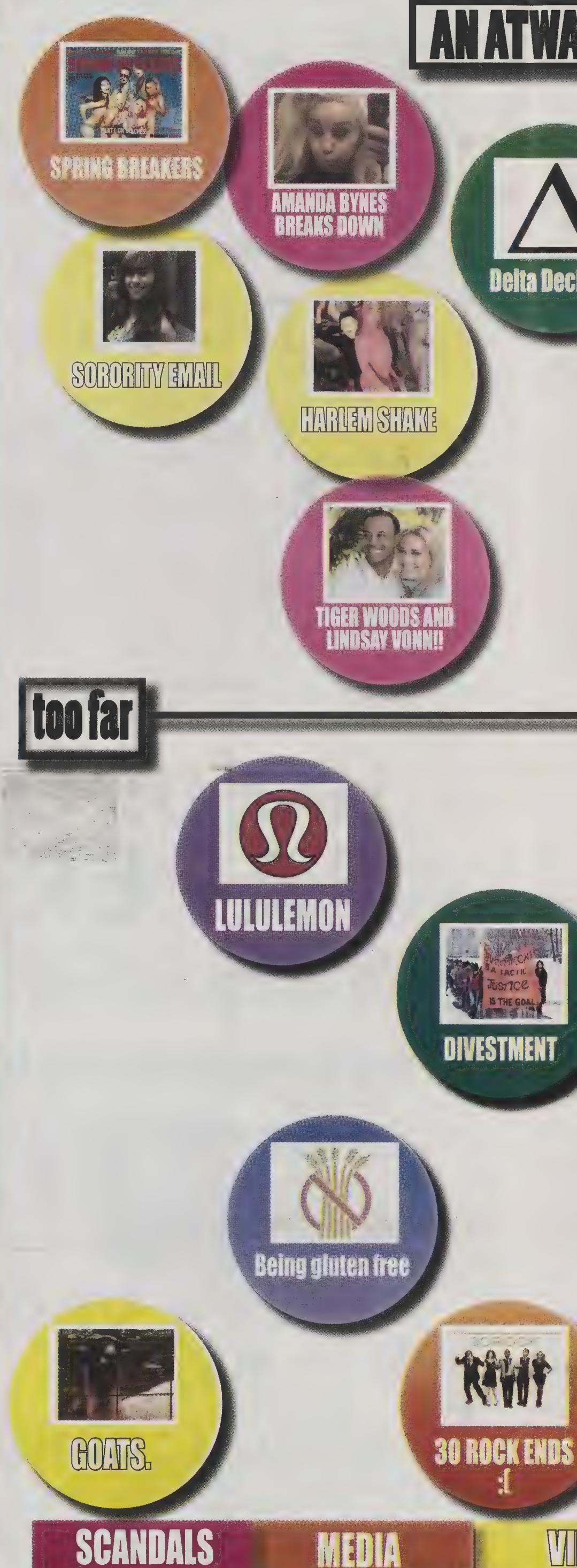
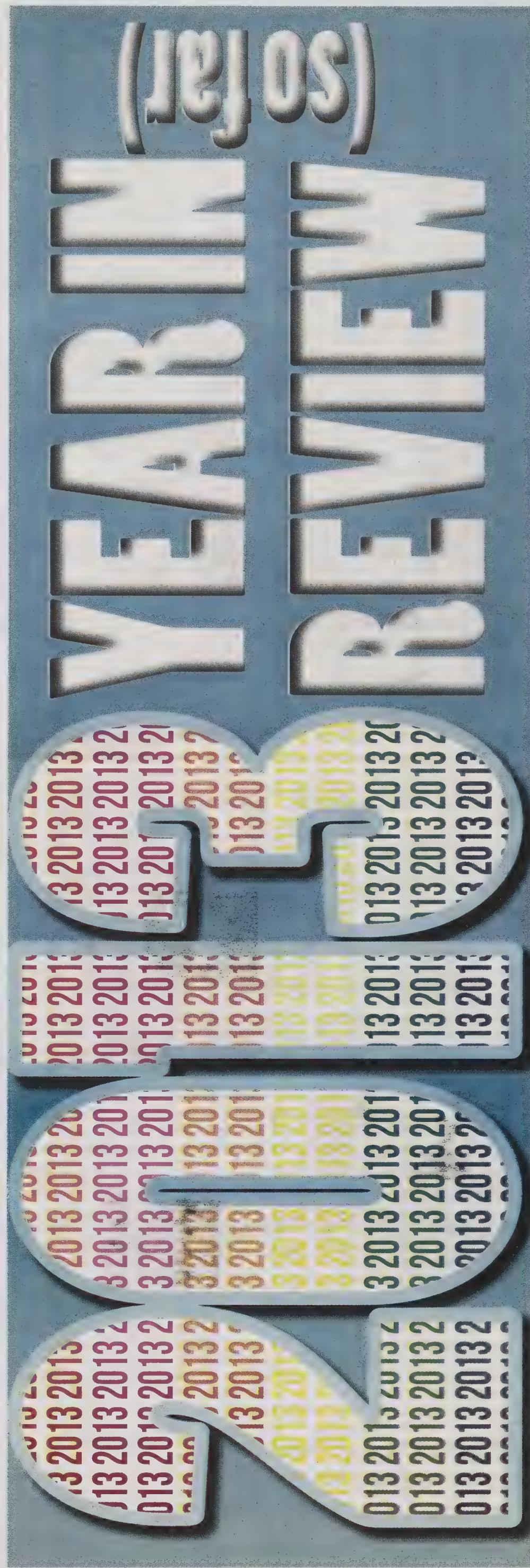
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FEY VS TAYLOR SWIFT

too good



STMENT



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FUN as the
Winter Carnival
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GAME OF THRONES



Time Flies as
the spring
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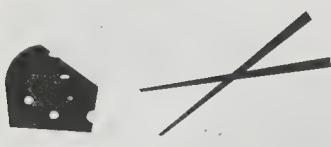
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TASTE CHEESE CHOPSTICKS



BY JIAYI ZHU

The weather is so nice these days. After a long lasting winter, no one on campus can wait to put on spring apparel! Battell Beach takes over the role of the gym, and tables outside of Proctor become the new place to sit, replacing Proctor lounge.

It is interesting to see how people love to expose themselves under the sun around the campus. Frisbee suddenly becomes the most popular sport on campus, and Battell Beach is packed with students running around, a scene distinctly different from the snow-covered isolated atmosphere in the winter.

In the late afternoon, it is quite a scene for me to see people dressed in shorts and bikini, with their sunglasses on, lying in the sun, face down in the lawn or the picnic cloth they brought.

I wrote a tweet in Chinese saying that "spring is coming and the sun is shining. People surrounding me are obsessed with [it]: slackline in the sun, get tanned; play Frisbee in the sun, get tanned; chat on the lawn in the sun, get tanned; read books in the sun, get tanned; wear as [little] as possible, get tanned." I got a fair amount of retweets and my Chinese friends who are studying abroad seem to resonate with this.

I don't understand why tanning one's self is the social norm here. I enjoy the sun, and I don't mind gaining some vitamin D by walking between the buildings on campus. But when I was having some tea with friends outside for 15 minutes, the sun got too shiny and hot for me to stay longer.

It must be the same awkwardness for American students to see how most of the Chinese girls escape from the sun in the summer. Instead of getting tanned, most of us are obsessed with getting as pale as possible.

The most recent instance I realized this difference was when comparing the skin care lines of the same brand in the U.S. and in China. Whiteness line, as the most popular line which appears on the home page of the Chinese website of that brand, does not exist in the U.S. The most equivalent line I can find on its U.S. website is the uneven skin tone line. Not surprisingly, it is also hard to find tanning lotion in China.

You may ask then what do most Chinese girls do in this nice and warm weather. I cannot represent all of them, but I can tell you what I am planning to do this summer. I will try to stay in the shade – if not the air conditioned rooms – as long as possible. I will get myself a cute sun-protective umbrella and stock up on sunscreen. It is not the sunlight that I don't enjoy, but more of the heat and humidity the sun brings with it in the summer. Thus my favorite activities in the summer include hanging out with my friends in air-conditioned shopping malls, karaoke, restaurants and cafes. There is a joke in Hong Kong that the only time of year when girls wear sweatshirts is in the summer due to the low preset temperature of the air conditioners.

I am ready for my adventure of meeting the sun as little as possible this summer, and wish you all the best hanging out in the sun even without my company!

RECEPTION HONORS PUBLISHED FACULTY AND STAFF

By Katie Schott

Last Friday afternoon the Davis Library hosted a reception to honor all 22 members of the faculty and staff who have published works in the last year. The works were displayed in the Special Collections room, and after each author gave a brief overview of their book, the staff mingled and had a chance to take a closer look at each other's work.

"It is always great to see what your colleagues are up to," said Paul Monod, A. Barton Hepburn professor of history and acting dean of international programs, who recently authored *Solomon's Secret Arts: The Occult in the Age of Enlightenment*.

According to Monod, *Solomon's Secret Arts* "is a study of occult thought in England and Scotland, including alchemy, astrology and ritual magic." This is his fifth book, but not the last — a sixth, a short book on British politics in the period of the American Revolution is in its early stages.

Christina Cartwright, German School coordinator, and translator of *Zoo Station*, agreed with Monod and commented on how "nice it is to feel recognized" by other members of the staff faculty. *Zoo Station* was originally published as *Christiane F. – Wir Kinder vom Bahnhof Zoo* in Germany in 1979. It is an autobiographical piece by a former drug addict on her troubled teenage years. The book is very famous in Germany and is required reading for most high school age students.

"Teens of Addison County and Middlebury students [should] read it as well," said Cartwright. "It may be based in a different culture, but the issues the book confronts carry over. It is a tough story, but a good one."

Another Middlebury author also has published a work confronting the same issue, but from another direction. Rebecca Tiger, assistant professor of sociology, recently published *Judging Addicts: Drug Courts and Coercion in the Justice System*. Tiger was not able to attend the lecture, as she is on leave this year, mainly researching from New York City and working on another book about addictions. *Rock Bottom: Celebrity and the Visual Culture of Addiction* focuses on the representation and construction of drug use and addictions in popular press and reality television shows.

Juggling teaching and writing on campus this semester is Visiting Lecturer in Spanish Ricardo Chavez-Castaneda, who has

had four works published in the last year, and 40 in his lifetime. He writes narrative literature for children, young readers and adults. In 2012, he received the "Premio Iberoamericano" for his short story *Julio Cortázar*, along with numerous other awards. His book *El Libro que Se Muere* was selected this year by the "Banco del libre de Venezuela" as one of the 10 best books published in the Hispanic world and in Spanish.

"Writing and teaching is like a blood transfusion," said Ricardo, "students constantly give me a fresh look at all the things around us, and they renew my curiosity about life and the world. With that renewed curiosity, perplexity and fresh perspective, those of us that dedicate ourselves to teaching are stimulated to explore many new ideas."

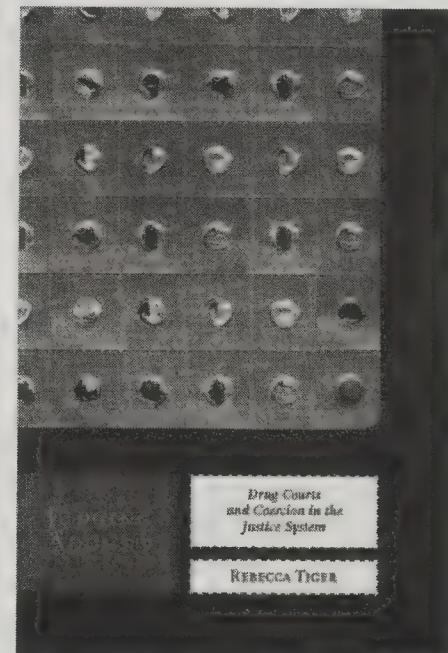
Another book published by a member of Middlebury's languages department was Assistant Professor of Spanish Luis Castaneda's *Viaje al Norte de Verano*, a coming-of-age novel for young readers, set in the northern coast of Perú, dealing with father-son conflicts, romantic relationships and personal ethics.

Two works by Middlebury professors were published in the Latin language in the past year. Professor of Classics Randall Ganiban collaborated on *Vergil: Aeneid, Books 1-6*, containing the first half of Vergil's *Aeneid* with line-by-line commentary and other material to aid college-level students in translating and appreciating the classic poem.

"I'm lucky to be able to write on authors I teach in my courses," said Ganiban. "I have my own students in mind when I draft the commentaries. The opportunity to 'test' these commentaries in class has been invaluable."

Associate Professor of Classics Christopher Star published *The Empire of the Self: Self-Command and Political Speech in Seneca and Petronius*, a book on Latin literature and philosophy. Star has received a grant from the Loeb Classical Library Foundation, and agreed with Ganiban that his "classes at Middlebury have all been helpful in refining ideas." Star has nearly completed his next book, an introduction to the life and works of Seneca.

Many of the works written will be helpful to the Professors in their classrooms as well as aid the teachings of their colleagues. For example, Larry Hamberlin, associate professor of music, co-authored a college textbook on American music. Director of the Breadloaf



COURTESY OF BARNES AND NOBLE
Assistant Professor of Sociology Rebecca Tiger published a study of drugs and justice.

Writers Conference, Michael Collier, most recently published his sixth collection of poems, titled *An Individual History*. He was the Poet Laureate of Maryland from 2001-2004, and teaches in the creative writing program at the University of Maryland. Retired professor Gary Margolis published *A Poet's Journey to the Shamans in Ecuador*, and his previous work, *Fire in the Orchard*, was nominated for the 2002 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry. Charles A. Dana Professor of Philosophy Emeritus Victor Nuovo edited and introduced *John Locke: Vindications of the Reasonableness of Christianity*, which looks at several writings by John Locke on religion. He also is a senior research fellow at Oxford University.

Director of Arts and Associate Curator at the College Museum Pieter Broucke, editor of *Edward Burtynsky's Vermont Quarry Photographs in Context*, made a point nearly all writers agreed on. "I just love it when I learn from my students," he said. All authors also repeatedly thanked their colleagues for the continued advice and editing.

This is just a selection of the 22 works published by Middlebury faculty and staff in the last year. The full collection of works is housed in the Davis Family Library, to the left of the Circulation Desk.

MCAB SPEAKER, KIPP CHARTER SCHOOLS FOUNDER SPEAKS ON EDUCATION REFORM

By Isabelle Stillman

Mark Feinberg, co-founder of the KIPP (Knowledge is Power Program) charter schools and superintendent of KIPP Houston, opened his address to Mead Chapel last Tuesday, May 7, with a description of a traditional Masai warrior greeting.

"How are the children?" says the first Masai warrior, according to Feinberg.

"The children are well," responds the other.

Feinberg embraces the meaning behind this interaction in his extensive work in education reform — he focuses on the children.

KIPP is the largest network of charter schools in the U.S. The schools, located mostly in under-resourced areas, are funded publicly, privately run, free and open to anyone.

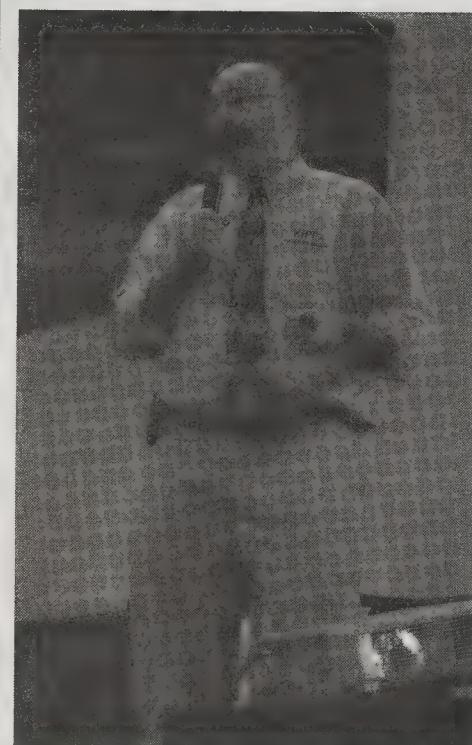
Since 1994, when the first KIPP school was founded in Houston, Texas, Feinberg and his co-founder Dave Levin have pur-

sued their goal of closing the achievement gap in elementary, middle and high school education. Today, 125 KIPP schools are in session across the U.S., about half of which are middle schools.

"There are two basic ingredients in the KIPP formula: great teaching and more of it," Feinberg said on Tuesday.

Though Feinberg and Levin fundamentally believe that education reform comes from having a strong presence in the classroom, their model is also based on five other major principles: more time (in the school day and throughout the year), choice and commitment (giving families an opportunity to determine their own education), power to lead, high expectations and focus on results.

Feinberg closed with a call for a complete "mindshift" in American society; to combat the issues of education and reform the system for the better, we first must understand the system as it is and tackle it with a brighter future in mind.



KIPP schools co-founder Mark Feinberg spoke in Mead Chapel, Tuesday May 7.

WINNERS LOSERS

CRUSH LISTS

Nothing to lose and everything to gain!

CRUSH LISTS
For those of us who haven't found our names yet...

LAKE DUNMORE

Hannafords is all sold out of Twisted Tea after this weekend.

TREES
Keep 'em in the ground people. They're the Earth's lungs!

MAPLE HALF MARATHON

The few, the mighty.



FINALS
Whether you like it or not, they're coming...



CCSRE changes leadership, continues dialogue

By Jack Dolan

On November 4, 2008, members of the American democratic process took one giant step towards racial equality by electing the first black President of the United States, Barack Obama. Just one day earlier, on November 3, members of the Middlebury community checked their emails and found plans for a new Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity in Carr Hall.

The decision to provide a venue to the college community to encourage discussion about race and ethnicity at such a pivotal point in American history was no coincidence. Founder of the Center and now Dean of Students Shirley Collado cited the 2008 election and the accompanying discourse as an impetus for the Center's founding.

In an interview with the *Campus* given at the time of the organization's announcement, Collado said that students and faculty participating in the Center's programs would not only "do an intellectual analysis of what's taking place with race and politics in America, but how that is affecting us as a community."

Five years later, Obama remains in the White House, but the leadership in the CCSRE is changing. Professor of American Studies and the Center's incipient director Susan Burch is stepping down after five years of fostering the organization from a collective dream into a full-fledged institution that is woven

into the fabric of the College.

This past Friday, the CCSRE held an open house to celebrate Burch's work and to introduce fellow Professor of American Studies Roberto Lint Sagarena to the pre-existing community and potential incoming members as the new leadership for next year.

The Center, whose mission is to foster "interdisciplinary and comparative approaches for understanding formations of race and ethnicity and their effects on human relations," employs the help of faculty, staff and students alike to convey its message.

There are two different types of official associations with the Center: participating faculty members and affiliated members. The former fulfill their commitment to the organization and its mission by teaching classes in which the examination of race and ethnicity play a central role (there were 11 offered this semester). The latter are persons who simply have a vested interest in the work of the Center, demonstrating their dedication by taking classes offered by participating faculty members and attending activities sponsored by the Center.

Next year, Sagarena will step into Burch's place as director. When asked about his plans for the organization, Sagarena mentioned the idea of add-

ing an Ethnic Studies minor as well as growing the organization by increasing funds, sponsoring more events and adding more members.

"But, really, I'm just going to do my best to fit into the shoes of Susan," Sagarena added. "She has done so much for this place—my most important goal for the years to come is to pick up where she left off."

"When I first got here, the Center didn't have a director or any real, effective leadership," said Gabby Arca '13, an affiliated member of the CCSRE, who attended the torch-passing ceremony on Friday. "Now, because of Susan, we have this incredible space for events, for meetings, for even just casual conversation, which might be the most impressive part about [the Center], because that's what it's all about: getting people to talk about these issues."

Through Burch's leadership, the Center has come to constitute a consortium of 38 faculty associates and nearly 100 affiliated members. Previous events have included a lecture from Peabody Award winner Majora Carter, brown bag lunch discussions with professors from other colleges and an entire symposium

concerning race and ethnic constructs and their relationship to citizenship and immigration.

Not all of the events are brought in from the outside—many associates of the Center lead discussions, give presentations and hold forums displaying their own work.

"Of all the incredible presentations and talks and events I've seen since I first got involved with the Center, the most memorable would probably be Susan explaining her own work," said Carllee James '13, an affiliated member of the Center.

In addition to her managerial duties, Burch has authored and co-authored a number of books on the role of deaf individuals in the context of American society over the past decade. Her latest work, *Unspeakable: The Story of Junius Wilson*, interprets the life of the book's namesake, a deaf black man who spent 76 years of his life in a North Carolina state mental hospital during the Jim Crow epoch and examines the complicated intersections of race and disability.

Burch's works are available in the College Bookstore as well as on Amazon.com. To get involved with the organization, send an email to CCSRE@middlebury.edu with a few sentences that describe your professional and research interests, and how they might intersect with the goals of the organization. To learn more, stop by Carr Hall for details.

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ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

Provoking play on love leaves audience unsettled

By Jiayi Zhu

This past Thursday through Saturday, May 2 through 4, the College's theatre program presented the play "The Castle: A Triumph" by contemporary British playwright Howard Barker in the Seeler Studio at Mahaney Center for the Arts. The college website says the play is "blasting with humor, bawdiness, violence, and the limits of desire, pain and sexuality."

In "The Castle," a group of 12th-century English Crusaders return to their homeland after a long period of time, but find that the civic, agricultural and religious practices they were familiar with have been turned upside down while they were away. The women who were left behind in the village had radically changed the government and religion into an egalitarian culture. With the return of these reigning crusaders, they brought back an engineer who planned the largest castle in the region in order to regain control over the women. As the construction of the castle went on, they not only transformed the landscape of the village, but also the power dynamics manifesting in gender, sexuality, race and age. The play is serious, mature but yet comical in its exploration of gender and love.

Director Richard Romagnoli, the Isabel Riexinger Mettler professor of theatre at the College, is an authority on the work of Howard Barker. He has directed six of Barker's plays and a few poems for the theatre department, PTP and companies in Boston and New York City since his first year at the College.

In Director's Notes, Romagnoli viewed "The Castle" as "a story about love — love rejected — love betrayed — love pursued — the inability to love."

With inciting action, a series of compelling conflicts and a resolution followed by an ironic denouement, the play

formed the theatrical polarities of humor and sadness, a beautifully structured story.

Telling Barker's story, conventional exchanges between characters were interrupted by direct addresses to the audience, inviting the audience to participate in the dramatic dynamic. The direct connection between the audience and the performer was not only engaging, but also challenged the imaginative boundaries of the audience.

Limited by the space and the budget, set designer Jon Crain and the director decided to have curtains dyed and painted shades of green, furnishing the landscape at the beginning of the play. The castle was revealed through the abrupt, violent tearing down of the curtains. The walls of the Seeler Studio became a part of the castle as the plot unfolded. In addition to that, the set provided the literal embodiment of a forbidding and dehumanizing structure in the space where the show finally took place with concrete columns and cinder block walls.

Instead of using traditional music scores as a melodramatic device to intensify the emotional scenes, the sound designer Cormac Bluestone used construction sounds to underscore some of the emotional moments.

"The Castle" starred Christina Fox '13.5 as Skinner, a witch, Meghan Leathers '13.5 as Ann, a changed woman, and Noah Berman '13 as her husband Stucley, a knight, embattled lord of the land.

Tickets sold out for all three performances. Students, professors, parents of the cast and friends of the production crew came and watched the two-and-a-half hour play.

"This play is not likely to leave the audience unaffected and indifferent and that makes for a potentially productive evening in the theater," said Stephen Donadio, Fulton professor of humanities,

sharing his experience in an email after the performance on Saturday night. "For what it is worth, my own sense is that "The Castle" reveals the nature and scale of Barker's dramatic ambition, which is Shakespearean, and that the changeable, conflicted texture of the play reflects Barker's uneasiness with such an ambition, which he cannot help but find suspect, because it may be associated with pretentiousness and a will to power and domination."

"As Romagnoli's production makes clear," he continued, "the playwright's handling of this bleak assessment involves a lot of humor — subtly ironic humor and humor of the broad, loud, vulgar music hall variety. So, in the end, 'The Castle' seems to me unstoppably exploratory and genuinely unsettling."

Unsettling seems to be a frequently mentioned adjective after the performance. Some of the students refused to leave any comment on "The Castle" because they do not know how to respond to this dramatic theatre work and were not sure if they got the underlying meanings of the work right.

Jack DesBois '15 said that it was helpful for him to understand "The Castle" better with the experience of learning about Howard Barker in class. He said the abstract concepts of conflicts, domination and power might be hard to get out of the play if the audience came without knowing what to expect.

Precise construction of the castle, demolition of nature, betrayal in love, doubts in religious belief and conflicts in power; there are so many themes discussed and explored in "The Castle" that the general audience had a hard time grasping them all.

From a technical perspective, Sumire Doi '13, who did her senior acting thesis "17 1/2," one month ago, thought "The Castle" was a brilliant project.

"The wall of the Seeler Studio was always standing there," Doi said. "It's nice to see the crew use it as a part of the castle, so the studio itself represents the castle. Besides, I really appreciated the poetic dialogues in the play."

This summer, "The Castle" will be a part of summer shows in Season 27 of the PTP/NYC project off-Broadway.



COURTESY OF STANFORD BAROUH

Christina Fox '13.5 starred in the theater department's production of "The Castle."



COURTESY OF STANFORD BAROUH

Haunting scenes asking serious questions caught the attention of the audience.

DON'T MISS THIS

Francois Clemons Farewell Concert

Alexander Twilight Artist-in-Residence Francois Clemons, who founded the Harlem Spiritual Ensemble and played Officer Clemons on the children's show *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, gives his last official solo concert at Middlebury before retiring at the end of the school year.

5/10, 8 P.M., MAHENNEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Scenes and Songs

Music department student vocalists come together to present their work in a night of lively musical theatre, ranging from opera to Broadway. The night features solo and group pieces, ranging from opera to Broadway.

5/11, 8 P.M., MAHENNEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Shipwrecked on RIDDIM Island

The spring RIDDIM concert explores being shipwrecked through a wide range of dance styles, from contemporary to hip-hop. If you missed out on getting a ticket, there will be an open dress rehearsal at 8 P.M. on May 10.

5/11, 7:30 AND 10 P.M., MCCULLOUGH SOCIAL SPACE

Dancers excite with improvised style

By Leah Lavigne

On May 3 and 4 an ensemble of dancers and musicians presented "Music, Dance, Light: Performance Improvisation" at the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts Dance Theater. The performance was the capstone experience for a group of students enrolled in Senior Lecturer in Dance Penny Campbell's improvisational dance course and also served as an exploration — as the title suggests — of the interplay between dance, music and light.

The student dance ensemble included Adeline Cleveland '13.5, Hai Do '14, Amy Donahue '13.5, Douglas LeCours '15, Jessica Lee '13, Julianna Mauriello '13, Cameron McKinney '14, Rachel Nunez '14, Sarae Snyder '15 and Meredith White '15, most of whom study dance as a major or minor.

Audience members were greeted by the sights and sounds of the performers warming up, exploring their ideas for the night and getting their bodies moving. Dancers stretched and investigated specific movements, speeds and energies, while musicians played with varying intervals and colors of sound. The six musicians, Arthur Brooks, Michael Chorney, Deborah Felmeth, Ron Rost, Anthony Santor and Heimo Wallner, played a total of 10 instruments, adding a jazzy, yet elegant live edge to the group. The location of the musicians on stage, performer's outfits and the interaction between sunset and stage lighting were the only pre-meditated parts of the evening.

The nature of the performance allowed any length and combination of pieces, as well as interesting juxtapositions of music and movement. Audience members waited in curious anticipation of the structure of time and space and each performer's unique decisions.

Campbell said of the improvisational style employed by the ensemble, "One of our fundamental understandings is that improvisation is composition. From the first moment that someone begins to create sound, movement or light, form begins to emerge and all artists and members of the ensemble collaborate to mid-wife those first hints of life into a fully-fledged, unique piece."

At the Saturday performance, the ensemble presented a variety of short pieces, each distinct in its ideas, movements and sounds. Each piece began with a loosely pre-conceived notion and quickly evolved

into whatever the performer's wanted it to be. Certain dancers or musicians emerged as soloists, and performers deftly communicated with each other, silently reading body cues and listening for musical patterns.

"As a member of this ensemble," dancer Do said, "it is my responsibility to open up my awareness, process the information and make decisions that will contribute to the ensemble's works."

Original ideas expanded into bolder movements and relationships, bringing dancers together to collaborate with high levels of trust. If a dancer started on a particular idea, one of the musicians may have chosen to provide that performer with a complimentary beat, but only for a period of time. The work focused on the idea of evolution, asking performers to challenge their own boundaries and create new artistic relationships as an ensemble.

As the performance progressed, the audience viewed the sunset through the westward windows of the dance theater, adding a dimension of natural light progression to the presentation. In the end, the three main components blended beautifully, offering surprising and thought-provoking, on-the-spot interpretations. Each performer calmly made split-second decisions without showing a sign of thought, making the improvisational style seem effortless.

Students spoke enthusiastically about the comparisons between improvisational dance and life.

"In our practice of this form," Sarae Snyder '15 said, "we must face the unexpected, think physically and compositionally in a single instant and learn to let it go. It is research and it can never be complete or fully mastered. The process is the product."

Rachel Nunez '14 also found valuable

real life connections in the work, saying, "This spirit of exploration, experimentation, questioning — which I first applied to my interpretation of the music, then later to my relationship to the other individuals in the ensemble, the space and my movement style and finally to the social norms and aesthetic standards of being a body dancing on a stage — is something that I recognize as valuable and vital, not only to the pursuit of art, but to the pursuit of life."

The passionate, unique expression of creativity impressed the audience, who talked excitedly about the performance as they left the theater. The evening presented an excellent change for students and community members who do not usually have the opportunity to experience improvisational dance and music and gave students a challenging opportunity to take their study of dance to a new level.



ANNEA VIRAGH

On May 3 and 4, student dance ensemble demonstrates improvisations, positioning bodies and manipulating shapes.

'Syrup' spills over screen with Q&A

By Ben Anderson

Last Sunday, the Middlebury Film Society hosted a screening of "Syrup," an edgy comedy set in the cut-throat world of advertising, based off of the best-selling novel of the same name by Max Barry. The film was produced in part by Middlebury alumni Aaron Becker '10, Shane Mandes '10 and Baird Kellogg '10. Current student Hunter Nolan '13 also worked on the film as an associate producer and assistant editor. After the screening, Kellogg, Mandes, Becker and Nolan all sat down for a Q&A with the audience.

With loud music blaring over the speakers of Dana Auditorium and with a veritable entourage of the college alumni who worked on the film and their friends, the premiere was quite the event. Arriving 10 minutes before the show started, I was stuck sitting in some of the front row seats as excited students had already packed the auditorium for the film.

The film stars Shiloh Fernandez as Scat, a business school graduate who thinks he has the next great marketing idea. After being betrayed by his friend 'Sneaky Pete' at the beginning of the film, Scat teams up with '6', his new boss at the Addy drink company to work his way to the top through an industry he soon finds to be riddled with deception. At first, I thought the running gag of the characters giving themselves unique names was a bit gimmicky, but as the film progressed, it tied in well with a running theme of self-reinvention and our attempts at hiding behind a false image we create for the world.

"It's a dramedy — a dramatic comedy," Becker said. "[It's] a society piece and a bit of a satire."

The acting was solid throughout the film. Fitting with the off-and-on lack of seriousness in the film, each actor was able to pin down a different trope for his or her character. The sexy and mysterious business woman, the 'always thinks his idea is the next big thing' idealist, the silent but deadly archenemy — all of the characters seemed to want to be a cliché, while

still managing to be interesting with a sense of depth.

My only real issue with the film was the pacing. After only the first half-hour or so of the film, two or three conflicts had been established and resolved. At one point, the story seemed to rush by at break-neck speed, only to slow down for another 20 minutes without plot development.

While there were a lot of interesting and plot-moving scenes, the transitions sometimes felt rushed and fragmented. That being said, the story as a whole

the book and we were able to buy the rights from him and completely readapt it," Becker said at the Q&A.

According to the three involved, they aren't using the term 'readapted' conservatively, as the film really only takes the name and basic idea from the novel. It becomes a new work in and of itself.

"It was great to have the author so heavily involved," Mandes said. "He took the characters, ideas and themes from the book and made a whole new story."

The enthusiasm on the part of all four involved was incredibly evident during the Q&A. The effort that went into this film was clear both from their stories and in the final product. And their effort certainly did not go to waste; the film was released on iTunes last Friday and by the end of the week it was already the second most downloaded independent film on the site.

"You get really anxious the day it is released because you don't know how people will receive it," Becker said, "so seeing people get so excited about the movie was my favorite part of the whole process."

The final question of the Q&A, asked by Nolan himself, directed to the other more experienced filmmakers touched upon the goals that many students at the College have; to take something they are truly passionate about, create a product they are proud of and go somewhere with. "What are some stepping stones," he asked, "in getting to where you are?"

"The first and most basic thing," Mandes said, "is just doing it ... if you get thrown into the fire, you'll figure it out. If someone has an idea and there's an opportunity, just go for it and make something."

Looking ahead to the future, the three Middlebury alumni hope to keep up their momentum from "Syrup." This summer they will be in Chicago shooting a political thriller about a cyber-terrorist attack on the United States.

"Syrup" is currently On Demand and available for download on iTunes and is set for a theatrical release on June 7.

You get really anxious the day it's released because you don't know how people will receive it, so seeing people get so excited about the movie was my favorite part of the whole process.

AARON BECKER '10

did manage to hold my attention throughout and even kept me guessing at points. And, as well as being compelling, the story presented a less-than-cliché love story. In fact, love story is a bit of a misnomer in this case and I enjoyed seeing the romantic tension culminate in a way I didn't predict.

The filming process began three summers ago. Kellogg, Mandes and Becker spent many weeks traveling the country, trying to juggle commitments from actors and producers in a difficult balance that proves that there's a lot more involved in a movie than filming.

A script had been circulating in Los Angeles as an earlier adaptation of the story written by the author of



Summer Construction Preview

YOUR WEEKLY SOURCE FOR UPDATES ON MIDDLEBURY'S SOLAR DECATHLON TEAM

By Owen Teach

As the spring semester winds down, the 2013 Middlebury Solar Decathlon team's work is just beginning. Twenty-one team members, comprised of students and recent graduates, are set to begin work the day after Memorial Day (May 28) to complete the design and construction of the InSite house before an "East Coast" showing set for the first weekend in August. The house will then be dismantled into shippable panels before it travels by rail for reassembly during the competition in Irvine, Calif. in early October.

Constructing the house is only one of the goals for the summer, however, as the team also faces a mountain of logistical tasks to prepare the house to compete in the competition. These range from developing informational materials for tours during the two-week public exhibition phase of the contest to deciding whether or not to drill microscopic holes into the house's windows so that they don't crack because of pressure change while traveling over the Rocky Mountains en route to Irvine.

Despite the seemingly endless list of tasks, however, Cordy Newbury '13 is satisfied with the work that has been done thus far.

"We have done remarkable work in beginning the construction and waterproofing the house; we have also raised three fourths of our project budget and we have set up strong outreach outlets," said Newbury. "This summer we will have much more time to dedicate each week, meaning we will be more efficient in our work and be able to expand our outreach efforts. Keeping up with the construction schedule will be our biggest challenge as well as preparing for our upcoming deliverable on public exhibition materials."

One of the ways the team has dealt with complicated logistics is to have cer-

tain students become "experts" in particular areas. Rita Croce '14.5, one of the students here for the summer working on construction, has spent her semester becoming the team's lead on window design and installation.

"Before this semester I worked out the outreach team and was not involved at all in construction and design," said Croce. "I got some drawings that a kid had worked on before me, and had to work to understand them by talking to people and watching YouTube videos. When I started to draw them, I started to learn what all that gibberish meant. Then, after starting to build them you learn 'oh that line means this' and it all starts to make sense."

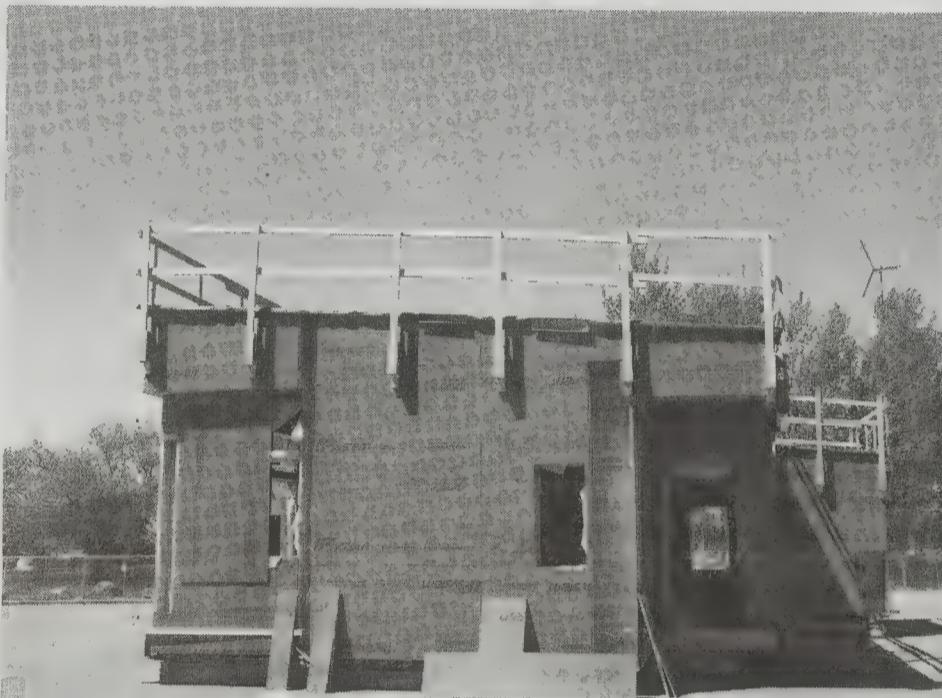
Croce also sees window installation

as being one of the largest challenges for the team moving forward.

"I think that windows will be a big challenge because the installation will be detailed and logistics can be a bit of a nightmare," she said. "This includes shipping and packing the windows in boxes to be shipped to Irvine."

More than just the house itself, team logistical coordinators also have to prepare for the dozens of Middlebury students that will travel out to the competition. This fall, students can participate in one of four one-week shifts to construct, display and then de-construct the house during its stay in California.

As time counts down to the competition in Irvine, the team has its work cut out.



ANNEA VIRAGH

The College is hosting 21 students this summer to continue work on the 2013 Middlebury Solar Decathlon submission InSite. The house will have its first showing in August and then be dismantled and shipped to California for October's competition.

SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT: SUMMER RESEARCH

By Will Henrikes

Soon the campus will empty. Dorm rooms will be stripped down and cleared out, cars will be packed, Commencement caps will fly in the air and the academic year will be done. The custodial staff will busy themselves scrubbing the campus from top to bottom, and then Language Schools will open their doors. Along with the Language School students, more than 100 Middlebury students will remain on campus to do summer research.

In McCordell Bicentennial Hall, research students will be working on projects that extend across the disciplines. Nicholas Caminiti '15 will be working in the lab of Burr Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Rick Bunt's lab, continuing the thesis work of Eric Roberts '13. Roberts "was able to prove that [a] catalysis [reaction] proceeds through a reversible mechanism. [This summer] I will be testing the reaction under a variety of different conditions — different solvents and different temperatures — in order to further understand this reversibility," wrote Caminiti in an email.

David Stillman '14 will also be on campus this summer in the lab of John G. McCullough Professor of Chemistry Sunhee Choi, studying the biochemistry of Amyloid- β , "a small peptide that aggregates into neurotoxic oligomers and senile plaques, which are diagnostic of

Alzheimer's," explained Stillman in an email.

Choi and Stillman will be studying the interactions that occur between several metal ions and Amyloid- β to elucidate the processes behind the development of Alzheimer's disease. "We are currently investigating the effects of Cu(II) and Zn(II) on the kinetics of glycation of $\text{A}\beta$ with ribose-5-phosphate. This summer, we hope to continue to learn more about the relationship between $\text{A}\beta$ and its possible co-factors and rates of glycation and aggregation, while also characterizing the $\text{A}\beta$ metal-binding active site," wrote Stillman.

Stillman and Caminiti will be working full time for a significant portion of the summer on their respective research projects. They will work side-by-side with faculty mentors, but over the course of the summer the project will begin to feel very much like their own.

The Office of Undergraduate Research notes on its website that "research has been identified as one of the top successful practices students can participate in during higher education. The in-depth study and implementation of a research project develops advanced skills that will translate beyond college."

Research is such a valuable experience because it forces students to take the initiative and develop ideas independently. They take ownership over the project. As Caminiti noted, "research

involves actually doing chemistry as opposed to simply learning about its various aspects [in the classroom]. The research involves [a process of] discovery. In the lab, we're experimenting to learn about aspects of chemistry that are not currently understood. We'll actually be contributing to the body of scientific knowledge, which is an incredible thing [to be able to do as an undergraduate]."

As rewarding as it can be, research during the academic year can be challenging. It's difficult to balance the host of other commitments that come with being at Middlebury. The summer is a time to engage with the research full time, without trying to juggle classes and extracurricular activities too. There's a different mindset on campus during the summer. "The chemistry department fosters a really close, supportive community and a relaxed, creative atmosphere. And Middlebury [has the] resources, equipment and mentors to allow undergraduates to truly contribute something meaningful to our knowledge of the world," said Stillman.

But summer research has an added bonus: Middlebury in the summer. Stillman is an enthusiastic proponent of the experience: "It's gorgeous every day — it literally rained twice last summer — and the English-speakers on campus are really tight-knit. You get to experience all Middlebury has to offer without the constraints of [academic work]."

ONE LIFE LEFT

BY SANTIAGO AZPURUA-BORRAS

It always warms my heart when I stumble upon an indie gem as these games tend to offer vastly different experiences than from your typical AAA release. They will be cheaper, usually offer a unique visual style and feel more like a video game due to their lack of cut scenes, dynamic cameras or other things that games with a bigger budget use to create a more "cinematic" experience.

Guacamelee! is such a game, developed by newcomer DrinkBox Studios, and if this is their first attempt into the game-creating world, let's say that I am holding my breath for what they release next as Guacamelee! Is an impressive debut.

Guacamelee! tells the story of Juan, a simple agave farmer and tequila maker who, after a fire at the Presidents house, rushes off to rescue his childhood friend, the president's daughter. Calaca, an undead skeleton who wishes to use her for a ritual that will merge the worlds of the living and the dead so that he may rule all, has kidnapped her.

Juan challenges him to a battle, only to be killed nigh instantly. It's in the world of the dead where he discovers a magic luchador mask which grants him life as well as newfound strength and speed, exactly what he needed to stop Calaca.

The first thing you will notice is the visual style, a comic book feel with a Mexican luchador motif. Lots of vibrant colors, sombreros and dia-de-los-muertos skeletons all inhabit the lush, but small world of Guacamelee!

Guacamelee! is a love letter to the Metroidvania, as it uses this classic formula, but in new and exciting ways. The game is a 2-D side scroller which only progresses when the players find special moves, which allow access to areas previously not accessible. True to the genre, there are also plenty of special nooks and crannies to find and explore, usually containing pieces of sugar skulls, which increase your stamina, or heart pieces, which increases the length of your health bar.

The combat is also incredibly simple but still satisfying. Juan has his basic three hit combo, but once a character is weak enough, Juan can grapple them. Once grappled you can throw an enemy in any particular direction, suplex him, drop kick him, or just throw him into the air to begin an air combo. This creates a thrilling combo based combat system that feels true to the luchador motif the game is portraying.

The most interesting mechanic in the game however is the necessity to switch from the world of the living to the world of the dead, and vice-versa. At first this will be done through little switches floating, but later in the game Juan gains the ability to switch between the two at will.

By switching worlds, the environment immediately changes around him, walls may disappear, enemies that were not there may suddenly appear and the actual visual look changes as well, it is this mechanic that separates Guacamelee from its predecessors, and it works very well as it creates well-designed platforming sequences where a combination of aerial moves and quick world-switching are needed to succeed.

However the game is not without its faults, for one, it is far too short. The game only has three real boss fights, and while they are enjoyable and fun, its still only three boss fights.

The game is also littered with internet memes and game references. Some are contextual and enjoyable, such as the fact that Juan obtains his new moves from breaking Chozo statues, a throwback to the Metroid games. Others are just obnoxious memes that add nothing to the feel of the game and just feel desperate.

Guacamelee! is currently only available on the Vita via download, but there are talks of porting it to PC via steam, which I certainly hope they do, as this is a fantastic game with a lot of great ideas, an affordable price tag of \$15 and a cool visual motif.

Guacamelee! gets an 8/10

THE REEL CRITIC

BY OAKLEY HAIGHT

"Oblivion" is the result of some macabre thought-experiment, wherein every device necessary to tell an effective story is eliminated in favor of Tom Cruise's face and the basic tropes of pop science fiction. It's a structure that broaches questions about why we care about science fiction in the first place. The presumption is that an audience will overlook plot in science fiction if the world is sexy and seductive enough. And if *Oblivion* is considered solely on the basis of its world, it is more mediocre than it is offensively awful. If *"Oblivion"* is considered on the whole, it is awful.

Our introduction to the world of *"Oblivion"* is a flagrantly long voice-over: the entire context for the conflict is given in this opening speech. It is an inexcusable opening that sours the first act of the movie and it's a tactic that *"Oblivion"* gratuitously repeats. But Cruise's opening gives us the basics: the year is 2077, mankind has been nearly wiped-out by a series of wars with a sect of aliens and humanity is preparing a pushback against the invaders.

Tom Cruise plays a guy named Jack Reacher (wait, no — Jack Harper, that is) who, with his love interest Victoria, remains on earth to gather resources in hopes of sending them to the human colony on Titan. Summarizing any further runs the risk of revealing spoilers — there is a big

plot twist in the film which is indeed highly derivative and partially predictable. Melissa Leo gives a nice performance as Jack and Victoria's lone connection to the outside world, but that she is so cheery from the start of the movie is an alarm; something has to be up.

The central theme is memory: we're told from the beginning that Jack has lost his memory. The drama then becomes that Jack has dreams and memories of a woman, which is troubling in his state of amnesia.

What a boring plot device. Make no bones about it:

"Oblivion" only exists because of its visual appeal. Director Joseph Kosinski takes a unique satisfaction in letting the world exist without constant action — especially in the first half-hour of the movie the pace is contemplative and this is when *"Oblivion"* is at its best. The color palette relies on melancholic blues and pine trees. It feels like an ominous, mechanized version of Alaska. The problem is that we have no vested interest in not only the characters in *"Oblivion,"* but also its world, and despite its aesthetic allure, it quickly feels vapid and hollow. As soon as Kosinski begins to forgo contemplative scenery for exposition, the movie comes undone.

Tom Cruise only exacerbates the problem, playing an unmistakable everyman, who wears the archetypal base-

ball cap, chews gum, fights for earth. What I don't understand is why Cruise is ever cast as an everyman to begin with — there is something inherently unrelatable about his action-hero passion. This is not to say that he is a poor actor, or even that he gives a poor performance in *"Oblivion"* — only that he is miscast. His performance, like most of *Oblivion*, is meant to be homage to the sci-fi flicks of the 1970s: the entire structure of the movie is laced with references. But there is a fine line between "paying homage" and "ripping off."

"Oblivion" is instantly reminiscent of literally every piece of pop-science fiction, and peculiarly reminiscent of 2001, *"Battlestar Galactica,"* *"Gattica,"* the new *"Star Trek,"* *"Mass Effect"* even

"Halo." Those latter four are themselves highly derivative — it is the nature of science-fiction to borrow ideas. Here, I feel like there are copyrights being infringed. This is not necessarily to say that *'Oblivion'* doesn't perform a function as a competent piece of disposable entertainment: it can accomplish that end, in a pinch. But if the basic utility of sci-fi is its ability to take us to new, exciting realities, the world must offer at least some fresh iteration on borrowed ideas, or something otherwise interesting — something, anything. *"Oblivion"* gives us nothing.

OBLIVION

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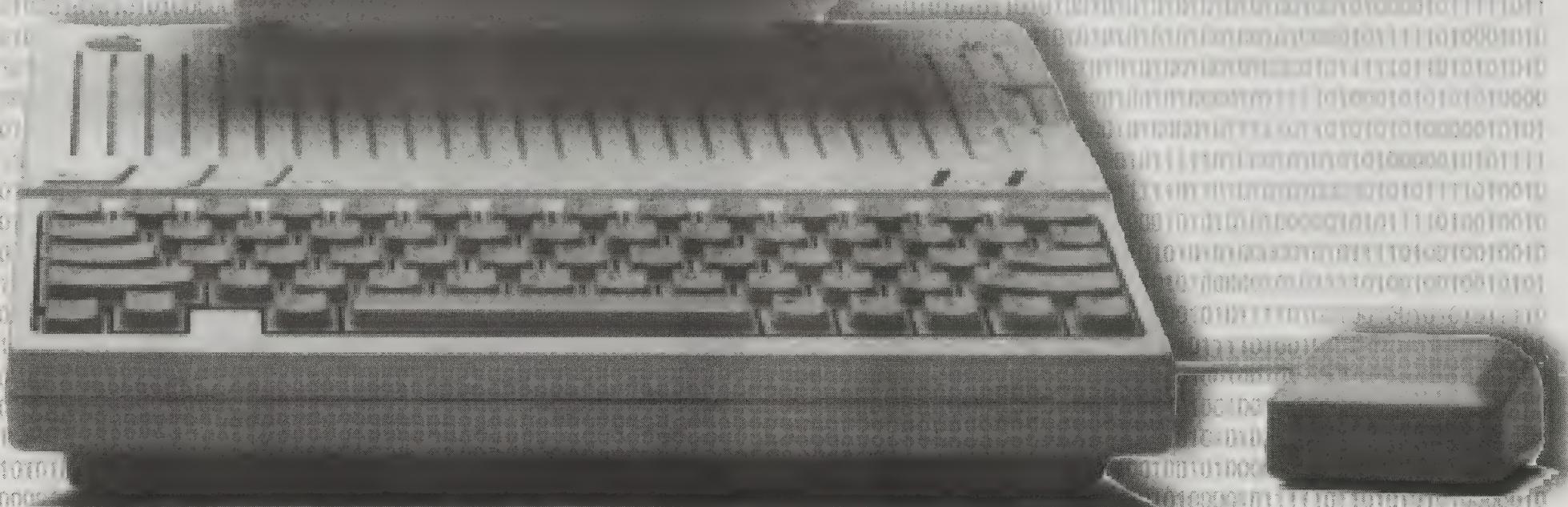
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The Middlebury Campus



Broome's last-second shot fails to beat clock

CONTINUED FROM 24

scored the third of his game-high four goals. Middlebury retook the lead later in the quarter as Billy Chapman '13 scored the team's only second half goal on a perfectly-executed fast break. Chapman, a first-team All-NESCAC selection, collected a pass from Panther goaltender Nate Gaudio '14, raced the length of the field and exchanged a give-and-go pass with Mike Giordano '13 before releasing a close-range shot that left almost no reaction time for Cardinals' goaltender JD Dieterich.

This time, however, the lead was short-lived for the hosts as Wesleyan found another equalizer shortly after to send the game into the fourth quarter tied at eight. Both teams were denied multiple goal-scoring opportunities early in the quarter by the woodwork, including a sequence of three straight Wesleyan shots in a single offensive possession that ricocheted off of different sections of the goal.

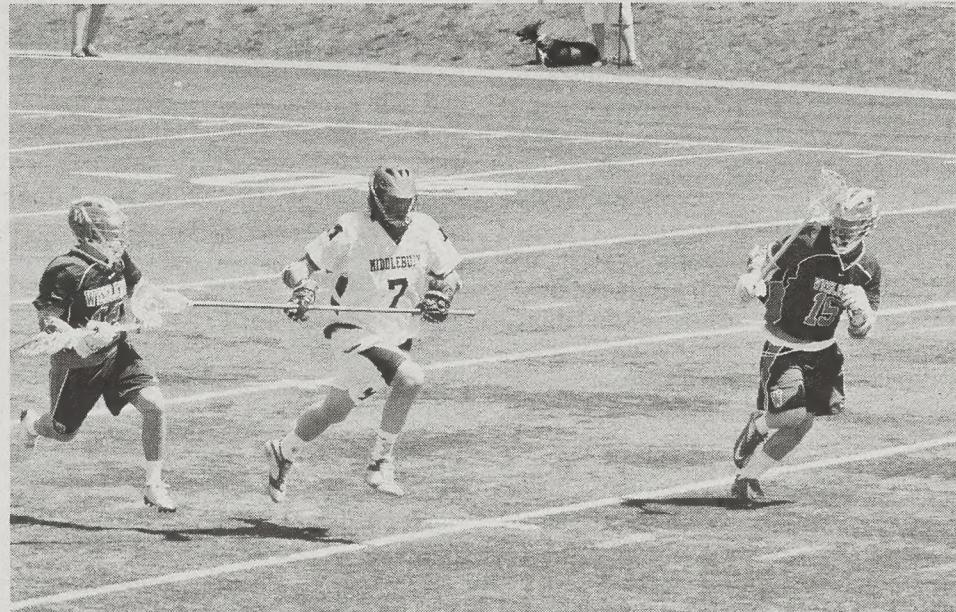
The game remained tied at eight until the final minute when Macnab scored

the game's final goal with 46 seconds remaining, lulling Panther defenders to sleep before rocketing a shot into the top corner.

Middlebury then scrambled off of a lost face-off to re-gain possession of the ball for the game's final sequence. Campbell called a timeout with 13 seconds remaining to draw up the team's final play. Middlebury waited too long to set up Broome's final shot, however, killing valuable seconds that cost the team an opportunity to tie the game and, ultimately, return to the NCAA tournament.

Despite the truncated postseason, the team made great strides from a season ago when it finished 4-9 and failed to qualify for the NESCAC tournament. And while a number of talented seniors depart, Broome and Joel Blockowicz '15 — two of the team's six double-digit goal scorers return, along with a talented crop of juniors and underclassmen.

"I would urge the underclassmen to work even harder next offseason than we



PAUL GERARD

Billy Chapman '13 dashes up the field in Middlebury's 9-8 defeat. Chapman recorded a goal in the last-second loss for a total of four goals and three assists on the season.

did this year, and not to get complacent because of the success we had this season," said Redmond. "I think this

team has a bright future. This first-year class is one of the most talented classes I've seen in my four years."

Men's tennis earns NCAA bid, will host regional tournament

CONTINUED FROM 24

work in preparation for the NESCAC championships proved to be the key of this big jump.

In singles play, Campbell went down rather quickly in the score of 2-6, 0-6 in a faceoff against Williams junior Felix Sun.

The 2012 NESCAC Player of the Year, Sun's crafty play and accurate passing shots proved to be effective against Campbell's aggressive game, as Campbell had severe difficulties in trying to consistently finish points against the relentless Sun.

Playing next to Campbell at the number-two spot was Jones. Similar to his teammate, Jones encountered much resilience from Williams senior Matt Micheli. Micheli handled Jones's penetrating groundstrokes with his counter-punching style by hitting shots with great depth. Jones tried staying on the court for as long as possible but eventually succumbed to a 3-6 2-6 decision.

With the Panthers trailing 2-3, all eyes turned to court six. Mountfield gave one of his best performances. Perhaps more impressively, this was Mountfield's very first dual match against an opponent from a top-15 team. His steady groundstrokes and quick movement gave senior Eph Dylan Page

trouble. Despite falling to a 0-3 setback in the second set, Mountfield remained calm and crawled back to pronounce a two-set 6-2 6-3 victory.

"I dealt with the pressure by taking it one point at a time and telling myself that my teammates will support me no matter what the outcome of the match is," said Mountfield. "My teammates are my biggest source of motivation. I would play for 10 hours if it meant getting them a point on the board. It felt great to clinch the Tufts match, but it felt even better knowing I took out a [Williams] Eph."

Set at three all, courts one, four and five all went into third sets. At the fourth spot, first-year Jackson Frons '16 managed to find his groove late in the game. He came back to snatch the second set 6-4 after a 1-6 deficit in the opening set. Both Frons and his opponent gave everything they had on the court. The lengthy exchanges from both sides of the net propelled the final set to progress into a tiebreaker. Unfortunately, Frons was downed by Chow in the score of 6-7 (2-7).

At this point, the Panthers needed to

I dealt with the pressure by taking it one point at a time and telling myself that my teammates will support me no matter what.

COURTNEY MOUNTFIELD '16
NUMBER-SIX SINGLES

win the remaining two matches in order to win overall.

Senior tri-captain Lunghino did not disappoint. By coming into the net and putting away volleys, he battled back from a tough tiebreaker loss in the first set to seize the remaining two sets 6-3 6-2.

With the contest frozen at 4-4, the task fell onto the shoulders of number-one player Johnston. Even though he was topped 2-6 early on, he displayed great fight in the second set to win in a tiebreaker 7-6 (7-4). However, as the match came down to the wire, Eph senior Trey Meyer broke Johnston's service game to take the set 6-3 and earn the necessary fifth point for the Purple Cows.

Coach Hansen saw a lot of positives from the play of his team against Williams.

"No question we are getting closer and closer to our best lineup," he said. "Spencer had a great win at four where we got crushed a few weeks back, Jackson lost breaker in the third where we were beat 3,1 a few weeks back and

Courtney came through at six where we were beat in straight sets [in the last match]."

After the loss to Williams, the Panthers have now lost three of their last six matches to end the regular season, including a loss to third-ranked Amherst and a pair of losses to the sixth-ranked Ephs.

With less than two weeks left for the 2013 squad, Hansen decided to make one final change to his team's starting lineup.

"We will continue to work on our doubles this week in particular at [second doubles] where we will have a new team with Teddy Fitzgibbons [14] joining Brantner."

The Middlebury men will host a regional for the NCAA tournament, where they will open up tournament play on Saturday, May 11. The Panthers will take on the winner of a match between Drew and Farmingdale, who play in the opening match of the regional on Friday, May 10.

"I am getting more and more clear about what each individual needs to work on so practices are getting more focused and productive," said Hansen.

The Panthers enter the tournament as the nation's 11th-ranked team. Neither of their possible regional opponents is ranked in the top 30 nationally.

EDITORS' PICKS



DAMON HATHEWAY (114-95, .545)



OWEN TEACH (71-77, .480)



FRITZ PARKER (23-26, .469)



ALEX EDEL (93-107, .465)

Where will Middlebury finish in the Director's Cup standing?

Who will represent the Western Conference in the NBA Finals?

Which NHL team will raise Lord Stanley's Cup?

How far will the women's lacrosse team advance in the NCAA tournament?

FIRST

Meanwhile, I am still in the lib. crushin' my politics paper.

FIRST

Sitting at second place following the winter, a number strong spring campaigns will get Midd to #1.

SECOND

Exam week is coming up and I'm feeling cynical.

FIRST

Spring teams will crush it. #crushed it

MEMPHIS

At least I'll get one thing right.

SAN ANTONIO

The timeless wonders.

SAN ANTONIO

I don't see OKC cutting it with Westbrook on the bench.

SAN ANTONIO

Duh. In my last edz pics ever, I am clearly being very articulate.

PANTHERS

I live and breathe Div. III

CHICAGO

After their record-setting start to the regular season, the Hawks look sharp in the Playoffs.

PITTSBURGH

Can't be jinxing the Capitals ... they need all the help they can get.

CHICAGO

Copying Owen for this one. #besteditorsever

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Spotted: a mysterious girl making up Damon's editor's picks while he does homework.

xoxo Gossip girl

FINAL FOUR

At least ...

FINAL FOUR

Big potential matchup with Salisbury in the national semis.

FINAL FOUR

They rock! Thanks to everyone who has put up with my picks for the last three years!

Women's tennis falls to Amherst in final

By Courtney Mountfield

The Middlebury women's tennis team took part in the NESCAC tournament this past weekend, May 3 and 4, at Amherst College. The team competed against Tufts in the quarterfinals on Friday, May 3, and came out on top by a score of 5-1. With the win over the Jumbos, they advanced to the semifinals on Saturday, May 4 to set up a rematch with national number-one Amherst, who defeated the Panthers 5-4 one week before.

For the second time in two weeks, Amherst defeated the Middlebury women 5-4, although this time the match was much closer, when the Panthers came within a single point of winning the match.

Middlebury started off the Tufts match with a lead as the number-one and doubles positions and won by scores of 8-0 and 8-1, respectively. The number-three team for the Panthers fell 8-4.

Ria Gerger '16 quickly gave Middlebury a singles point, as she did not lose a game, winning 6-0, 6-0. Lok Sze Leung '15 only gave up one more game than Gerger, claiming a victory at the number-one position 6-1, 6-0. Dorrie Paradies '14 won her first set 6-3, but then went down 4-1 in the second set. Dorrie Paradies showed resiliency and won five straight games on her way to a 6-3, 6-4 win, clinching the overall contest and giving Middlebury a 5-1 win.

With their win over Tufts, the Panthers gave themselves another opportunity to take on Amherst. The first and second doubles matches were decided in straightforward fashion as Brittney Faber '13 and Leah Kepping '13 went down 8-2, while Leung and Gerger convincingly defeated their opponents

"Though the loss was heartbreaking, there's always NCAAs and I know they're going to bring their best this weekend."

KAREN WELLS
ASSISTANT COACH

With four matches left on the court, Middlebury won first sets on three of the courts. Kepping scrapped her way to a 6-4, 3-6, 6-1 win at number-three singles, the third time Kepping has defeated Sue Ghosh this year.

Leung won by the same score in the third when she took out Jordan Brewer 6-3, 4-6, 6-1. Leung has the ability to grind her opponents down both physically and mentally by swinging her opponent side-to-side, up and back using her tricky lefty forehand. She is also able to mix up the spins and pace of the ball, keeping her opponent from getting into a rhythm.

Faber improved upon her 6-1, 6-2 loss to Zoe Pangalos last week as she was taken out in three sets by a score of 2-6, 6-4, 6-3. With the match tied at

8-3. At third doubles, sisters Dorrie and Katie Paradies '15 were up 5-2, then 7-6, and held a match point against Caroline Richman and Safaa Aly in that game, but were unable to convert it. They went on to lose the next three games in a row to lose 9-7.

The Paradies duo showed tremendous fight against an Amherst team that has now won 11 dual matches in a row. The 9-7 defeat is the closest a team has come to beating this team in all 11 of their wins.

After a short break, the singles began and Amherst had the momentum as they were up 2-1 after doubles. The first singles match to finish was number-four singles, where Dorrie Paradies went down to Gabby Devlin 6-1, 6-2. First-year Gerger came through once again giving Middlebury a second point by taking out Jennifer Newman in straight sets, 6-3, 7-6 (4).

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FILE PHOTO
Number-one singles player Lok Sze Leung '15 won in straight sets against Tufts, 6-0 and 6-1, over the weekend. Leung and the Panthers now prepare for the start of NCAAs.

4-4, first-year Margot Marchese '16 was in her third set. She lost the first set 6-3 but was able to come back to win the second set 6-4. Unfortunately, Marchese cramped during the third set and ended up succumbing to her opponent 6-3 in the third.

In her 14th and final season at Middlebury, women's assistant coach Karen Wells commented on the team's weekend.

"Though the loss was heartbreaking, there's always NCAAs and I know they're going to bring their best this weekend," she said. "They were all reminded how much fun college tennis is. The team came out this time with even more belief and a stronger desire to beat them, if that's possible. They rallied together and supported each other throughout the entire match."

Middlebury has now lost two of their last three matches to finish the regular season, with both setback coming against the national number-one seeded Lord Jeffs.

The Panthers travel to Bowdoin

this weekend to compete in the NCAA tournament. If they pass through this weekend's regional competition, they will then travel to Kalamazoo, Mich. later this month for the final rounds of the NCAA tournament, with the tournament final to be played on Wednesday, May 22.

Middlebury enters NCAA play as the sixth-ranked team in the nation.

The Panthers open regional play on Saturday, May 11, when they take on the winner of a match between MIT and Simmons to be played the day before.

MIT currently sits in the 22nd spot in the national poll, while Simmons is not in the top 30.

Should they win that match, Middlebury will likely have a rematch with NESCAC foe and national number-five seed Bowdoin in the regional final. The Panthers lost a 5-4 heartbreaker to the Polar Bears in the teams' last meeting back on April 13.

The Panthers enter the tournament having played each of the top-five seeded teams already this season.

Baseball ends season with series splits, fails to qualify for NESCAC

By Chad Clemens

Over the weekend, Middlebury split both of its series against NESCAC East opponents Bowdoin and Tufts. On the road, the Panthers took game one before dropping the afternoon effort in Brunswick on Saturday, returning home Sunday to divide their final double header of the season against the Jumbos.

The opening game against divisional leader Bowdoin saw a pitcher's duel highlighted by a brilliant performance by Eric Truss '15 who shut out the Polar Bears in his complete game, four-hit, four-strikeout effort. His quick tempo and consistent pitching kept the rhythm and momentum on Middlebury's side in a game lasting less than 90 minutes, ending with a score of 2-0. The effort would earn Truss NESCAC Pitcher of the Week honors.

The Panthers struck early in the first, starting with a lead-off double by Dylan Sinnickson '15. Moved over by junior Alex Kelly's groundout to second base, Sinnickson came in on an RBI single from the bat of Thomas Driscoll '13. Bowdoin couldn't respond, hitting into three quick fly-outs.

Middlebury scored its second and final run in the sixth, again kicked off by a Sinnickson double before Michael Morris '13 drove a fly ball deep enough to bring him in on the sacrifice fly. Sinnickson went 2-3 in the game.

Bowdoin starter Erik Jacobsen didn't roll over, however, as he shut down the Middlebury lineup with nine straight outs through the next three frames of play. He battled each inning against Truss, also going

the distance in a five-hit, two-run outing. His offense couldn't support what was an otherwise solid performance as the Polar Bears stranded nine runners total.

Game two was a different story as Middlebury failed to plate a run in a 9-0 loss. Bowdoin combined six different pitchers to limit the Panther lineup to four hits in a seven inning shutout.

Offensively, the Polar Bears scored two in the bottom of the first off of a hit-by-pitch, a walk, and a double to bring them both in. They added pressure in the third by plating three more on two additional hit-by-pitches, a walk, a two-RBI single and an RBI double before reliever Mark Dickerson '15 got a double play and strikeout to end the inning.

A one-run fourth and a big three-run sixth inning capped off Bowdoin's strong offensive return. The Panthers struggled to make solid contact throughout the game which resulted in a high number of fly-outs and groundouts.

A short evening of rest was all the Panthers were afforded before returning to Forbes Field to take on the Tufts Jumbos. Game one gave Middlebury a hard-fought victory with a final score of 7-6, but game two fell in favor of Tufts with an end result of 8-3.

Tufts began the day with a couple of unearned runs in the first thanks to a leadoff walk and a throwing error by starter John Popkowski '13. Middlebury swiftly cut the lead in half on Morris' RBI single in the bottom half of the inning before Driscoll knocked in the tying run on a single in the third.

The Panthers busted the game open in the fifth on a five-hit, three-run inning with

another RBI by Morris and a two-RBI single by Tom Rafferty '13. They didn't keep the lead for long, however, as Tufts struck back with four runs in the top half of the sixth. But the Panthers bats were hot, and a seventh inning rally put the Panthers over the top to take the game. Alex Kelly '14, Morris and Driscoll all reached base to start off the inning before Rafferty stepped up to the plate. With the game on the line, he roped a single to left to bring in the game-winning run. He led the team with his 2-4, four-RBI performance. Logan Mobley tossed the final 1.2 innings to earn a relief victory.

Game two saw the momentum reverse early as a three hit, two-error first inning allowed the Tufts to jump out to a 5-0 lead. The game settled through the next two innings thanks to reliever Dylan Kane '14, but the Jumbos struck again in the fourth to put the game at 6-0.

The Panthers chipped away with a run in the bottom of the fourth on an RBI double by Hunter Merryman '15 and again with a strong four-hit, two-run fifth inning. But the top of the seventh saw Tufts tack on two more runs off of Kane to put the game completely out of reach. The Panthers showed life in the bottom of the last inning by putting three men on base, but they were ultimately left stranded.

Though the Panthers' season ended with lesser results than anticipated, splitting two series against two of the strongest members of the NESCAC shows the talent this team possessed throughout the year. The Panthers look to continue the trend of strong pitching performances coming into next year's season.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING CHANGE TEAM Alex's Assertions

1 THE SPORTS SECTION

Couldn't have asked for a better 2.5 years. Going to miss edz pics next year.

2 WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Best of luck to the ladies with NCAA hopes!

3 MEN'S TENNIS

Despite a loss to Williams in the semis, they host NCAAs.

4 WOMEN'S TENNIS

They mirrored men's tennis with a 5-4 loss but a NCAA bid.

5 MEN'S LACROSSE

A dramatic 9-8 loss brings the team's impressive season to a

6 SOFTBALL

Great season despite the tough loss to Bowdoin.

7 WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Congrats to Juliet Ryan-Davis '13 for breaking a Div. 3 New England record.

8 BASEBALL

Two series splits brings their season to an end.

Softball sees season ends after Tournament loss to Bowdoin

By Alex Morris

Despite a strong start to the NESCAC Tournament, the Middlebury softball team was unable to progress beyond the semifinal round, falling to Tufts and Bowdoin on the second day of play of the double-elimination tournament. The Panthers advanced in the winner's bracket on Friday, May 3, after defeating Bowdoin 3-0.

A double from Jessica Poracky '13 opened up the scoring in the third inning, bringing home Jackie Stern '16 and Jessa Hoffman '13 after they pieced together consecutive singles. Middlebury added an insurance run in the fifth as Stern led off with a bunt single. She was brought home when Poracky scored her second double of the game.

Pitcher Elizabeth Morris '14 was the story of the game, finishing with 13 strikeouts and just one walk in seven innings while improving her record to 12-1 on the season. Poracky went two-for-three from the plate with three RBI while Stern also had two hits in three at

bats.

Middlebury advanced to play the eventual champions Tufts Jumbos on Saturday, May 4, falling 1-0 in a pitchers' duel. Tufts scored the only run of the game in the top of the first. Sara Hedtler led off with a bunt single and scored when Emily Beinecke doubled to right field.

While Tufts' Allyson Fournier pitched a two-hit shutout, Panthers' starter Alexa Lesenskyj '14 took the loss, allowing four hits and one run in four innings of work.

In a rematch, Bowdoin was able to come from behind to earn a place in the NESCAC championship game, beating the Panthers 5-1.

Middlebury started off the scoring when Emily Kraytenberg '14 led off with a walk, and later scored on double by Sarah Boylan '13. Despite this, Bowdoin pitcher Julia Beaumont was able to keep the Panthers off the bases for the most

part, allowing just two hits and no walks the rest of the way.

The Polar Bears clawed their way back in the fifth inning, scoring three runs. A single from Toni DaCampo secured two runs before she scored on a single from Gen Barlow. Bowdoin added two more runs in the sixth after a double from Casey Correa scored Adriane Krul and Victoria Rusch.

Morris took the loss for Middlebury, surrendering seven hits and three runs with five strikeouts in five-and-two-thirds innings.

Despite falling just a game short of playing in the NESCAC championship game, members of the team said that they were pleased with the season they have had overall.

"We have unity and support that goes so deep, from each of the 18 girls on the team to our three coaches, and such supportive families and friends," Kimber Sable '14 said. "We all work together and each individual is an integral part of our success."

As the team looks forward to next season, they will have to replace a class of four seniors which includes 2012 All-NESCAC first team member and Defensive Player of the Year Hoffman as well as Poracky, a second-team all-conference selection a year ago.

"We gave unity and support that goes so deep, from each of the 18 girls on the team to our three coaches, and such supportive families and friends."

KIMBER SABLE '14
OUTFIELDER

championship game, beating the

Panthers 5-1.

Middlebury started off the scoring when Emily Kraytenberg '14 led off with a walk, and later scored on double by Sarah Boylan '13. Despite this, Bowdoin pitcher Julia Beaumont was able to keep the Panthers off the bases for the most

BY THE NUMB3RS

1 Number of goals men's lacrosse scored in the second half of its 9-8 semifinal loss in the NESCAC tournament.

5 Number of unanswered goals the women's lacrosse allowed to start the NESCAC final against Trinity.

1.60 Pitcher Clay Buchholz's ERA in seven starts for the league-leading Boston Red Sox.

4 Number of NESCAC teams (Trinity, Bowdoin, Colby and Middlebury) that qualified for the NCAA women's lacrosse tournament.

3.77 Number of seconds between Juliet Ryan-Davis '13 and the second-place finisher in the 800 meters at this weekend's D3 New Englands.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

WOMEN'S LACROSSE vs. Trinity

11-10 L The Panthers battled all game but ultimately fell to Trinity on a buzzer-beater.

WOMEN'S TENNIS vs. Amherst

5-3 L Despite falling in NESCAC semis, the Panthers will host an NCAA regional this weekend.

BASEBALL vs. Tufts

6-0 L Middlebury showed promise in the first game, but the bats were quiet in their last contest.

SOFTBALL vs. Tufts

2-1 L The Tufts pitcher struck out 17 in the NESCAC championship.

MEN'S TENNIS vs. Amherst

5-1 L The doubles pair of Oberender and Fitzgibbons secured the only Panther win.

THE LAST COLUMN

From the cross country course to the lacrosse field, Middlebury athletes have accomplished a lot this year. During the fall, the field hockey team put together a historically dominant season and, while they fell in the NCAA tournament, the team racked up gaudy numbers all year. Men's basketball went dancing in Salem this winter, and women's hockey played darkhorse in the NCAA tournament by knocking off perennial favorites Norwich and Plattsburgh en route to a national runner-up finish. That momentum has carried over into the spring, with women's lacrosse and both men's and women's tennis headed into NCAA play looking for top finishes. As sports editors, we have enjoyed being there to cover these teams all along the way.

But there is another side to athletics at Middlebury, one which is not necessarily reflected in the results that we cover each week. This side is made up of the countless stories and personalities – past and present – which go a long way towards making Middlebury athletics what it is today, and it is, with this side in mind, that we present to you the first edition of *There's Only One Middlebury Sports Magazine*.

You will find a range of stories in the Middlebury Sports Magazine – from a closer look into the relationship between the men's hockey team and the town of Middlebury to an oral history of the men's basketball program – but they are all stories that you won't find in a typical edition of the *Campus*. With the more malleable format of the magazine, we have been able to explore our own interests and to delve further into stories that would otherwise have been swept up in the whirlwind of our weekly coverage. Deep in the fabric of the athletic program, we have uncovered stories that capture the spirit of Middlebury athletics in a way that our weekly coverage simply can't. We hope you enjoy reading the *Magazine* as much as we have enjoyed writing it.

So pick up a copy of the *Middlebury Sports Magazine* when it's released in the coming days, give it a read and let us know what you think. The College has a tradition of sports journalism going back nearly as far as the athletics program itself, and we hope that this magazine can both honor and continue that tradition.

- The Campus Sports Editors

Ryan-Davis demolishes records at D3 New Englands

By Joe Macdonald

The Middlebury College track and field teams participated in the New England Division III Championships this Saturday, May 4, at Colby College. The men's squad finished 10th among 26 teams, and the women placed 10th in a field of 25 teams.

Juliet Ryan-Davis '13 ran a remarkable 2:07.73 in the women's 800-meter run, setting a new track, Middlebury and

Division III New England meet record. Ryan-Davis' time was also 10th best in Division III all-time.

"My personal best before the race was 2:10.68," says Ryan-Davis. "In high school and earlier in college I put 2:10 on such a pedestal. I kept getting stuck at 2:11 [this year]."

"I was really grateful for Emily Dodge '13 and Patrick Rooney '13 at the 200 meters and again at the 600-meter

mark yelling my splits and telling me to push it," continued Ryan-Davis. "When I realized [I had run] a 2:07, I was pretty psyched, because you don't get to PR in the 800 by three seconds very often. The last time I did that was probably in high school."

The men's team from Bates squeaked out a one-point victory over MIT to capture the overall team championship.

For Middlebury, the 4x100-meter relay team of Kevin Chu '14, Bryan Holtzman '14, Fritz Parker '15 and Will Bain '15 placed third just behind MIT and Tufts. Holtzman also provided a top-10 finish in the 200-meter dash with a time of 22.27, good for sixth in the field. The men were also strong in the distance events. In the 1,500-meter run, Jack Davies '13, Wilder Schaaf '14 and Patrick Hebble '13 finished fourth, fifth and sixth. Sam Craft '14 placed sixth in the 800-meter run. Anthony Lee '13 finished fifth in the 5,000-meter run at 4:55.58.

On the women's side, MIT achieved a clear victory over second-place Tufts.

For Middlebury, Kara Walker '13 competed in the heptathlon, besting the field in the long jump and placing eighth overall. Carly Andersen '16 placed fourth in the javelin throw. Emily Dodge '13 came in at fifth in the long jump with a leap of 17' 2.25". Dodge also gathered a top-10 finish in the triple

jump, placing sixth, and was joined by teammate Emma McGuirk '15 at ninth. Laura Strom '15 tied for ninth in the high jump. Addie Tousley '13 broke the top-10 in the 1,500-meter run, just seconds ahead of teammates Sarah Guth '15 and Alison Maxwell '15.

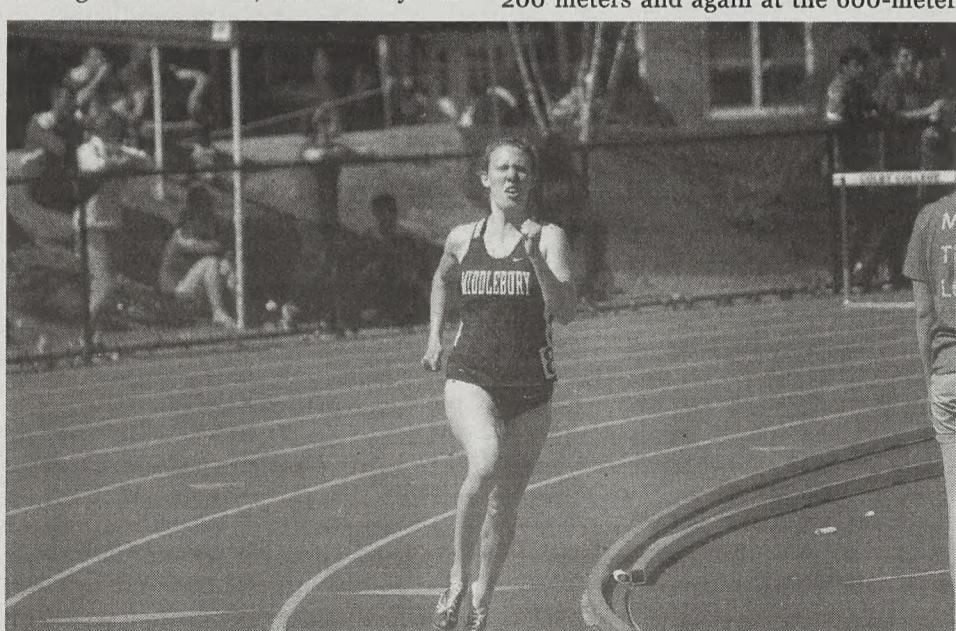
Alex Morris '16 ran a 58.24 in the women's 400-meter dash, good for sixth in the event. Sarah O'Brien '13 joined Ryan-Davis in the 800-meter run, placing sixth with a time of 2:15.97. In the women's 5,000-meter run, MIT runners took the top four spots, but were closely followed by Lottie Hedden '14.

Additionally, the men's and women's 2013 All-NESCAC teams were announced this week. Twenty-six Middlebury athletes placed in the top three in their events at last week's NESCAC championships to earn All-NESCAC honors.

Fifteen Middlebury men were included in the all-conference team, the most of any team in the conference. The Panthers were boosted by top-three finishes from all three of their relay teams at NESCACs.

For the women, 11 Panthers were named All-NESCAC, the second most in the conference.

The Panthers will compete next at the Open New England Championships on Friday and Saturday, May 10 and 11, hosted by Stonehill College.



Juliet Ryan-Davis '13 finished first in the 800 meters at this weekend's D3 New England championship, setting meet, facility and college records with a time of 2.07.73.

COURTESY ERIC KRATHWOHL

Women's lacrosse falls in NESCAC final

By Gabe Weissman

The Middlebury women's lacrosse team fell short of the NESCAC championship in a nail-biting, overtime tournament final, falling to Trinity this past Sunday in Hartford, by a score of 8-7.

After a come-from-behind win against Colby on Saturday in the NESCAC semifinals, winning by a score of 11-10, the Panthers had to quickly recover and prepare for their matchup against Trinity, who prior to the game was ranked first in the nation.

The Panthers came out flat in the beginning of the first half, allowing five unanswered goals within the first 20 minutes of game play. Middlebury's effort was jump-started after back-to-back goals from Emma Kramer '13, both of which were assisted by Liza Herzog '14. These goals were followed up with a goal from Katie Ritter '15 off of a feed from Ellen Halle '13 to make the score 5-3 at the end of the second half.

After a scoreless 10 minutes to start the second half, Middlebury's Alice Pfeiffer '13 found the net off a feed from Kramer. Pfeiffer's goal was answered by a pair of Trinity goals to make the score 7-4 with 18 minutes to play.

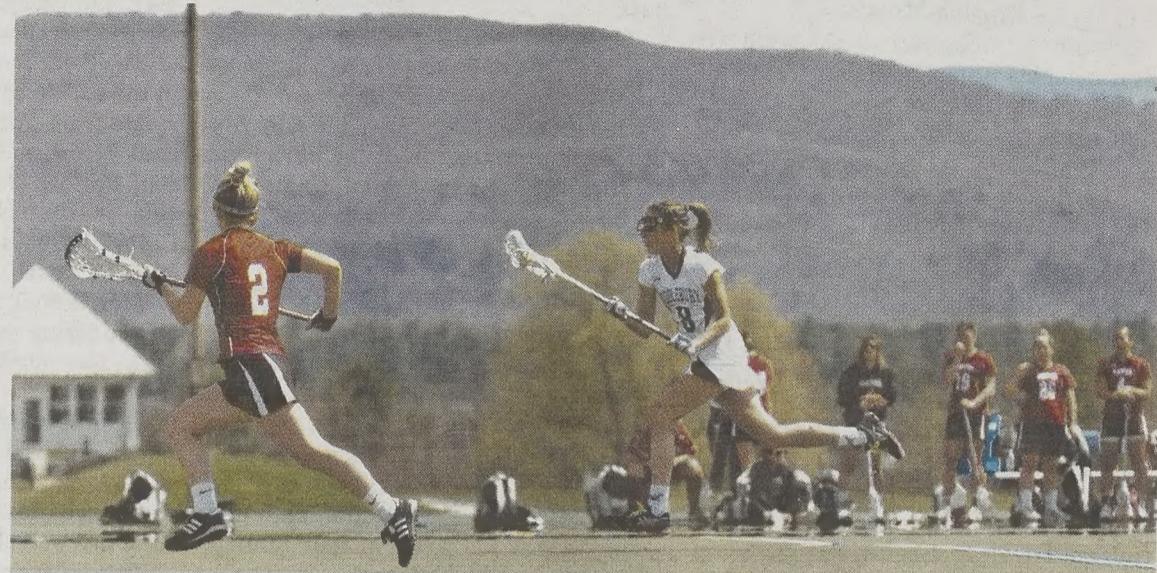
The late-game Panther comeback was initiated by Halle with 13 minutes to go. Her goal was followed by a goal from Laurel Pascal '16, and a game-tying goal with 4:30 left to play from Kramer off of a feed from Herzog.

The game then went to overtime and, after a missed shot by Trinity's Hadley Duncan and a save from Trinity's Olivia Whitney, Bantam Caroline Hayes was able to send one past goalkeeper Alyssa Palomba '14 on a free position shot, scoring the winning goal with 1:37 left in the overtime period.

Herzog, who finished the day with four assists, led Middlebury's effort along with Kramer who also finished with four points off of three goals and an assist. Halle added a goal and assist for the Panthers, while Pfeiffer, Katie Ritter and Pascal each added a goal of their own for the Panthers. Palomba, who played the entire game in net, finished with seven saves on 15 shots faced.

Kramer commented on the team's performance against Trinity.

"It was a really tough loss because we played so hard and came so close but in the end it can only make us stronger," she said.



Women's lacrosse advanced to the NESCAC finals but fell to Trinity 8-7 in the championship game. The team earned an NCAA bid and hosted Castleton State Wednesday, May 8 in a first round game.

"After a slow start, we learned that we need to be able to put a full 60-minute game together."

With the loss, the Panthers fall to 15-2 overall on the season, with both losses coming by one goal on the road at Trinity.

Despite falling to Trinity, Middlebury's strong play throughout the season earned them an at-large bid for the

upcoming NCAA tournament, as well as home-field advantage in the tournament's regional round.

Kramer spoke about the team's prospects in the national tournament.

"We are really excited to host the first round and hopefully regionals next weekend," she said. "We also hope that we get another shot at Trinity."

Given that Trinity is on the other side of the NCAA bracket, Middlebury will have to make it to the finals if the Panthers want another shot at defeating the Bantams.

The tournament begins Wednesday, May 8, when the Panthers matchup against in-state foe Castleton State at 5 p.m. on Kohn Field.

Wesleyan sneaks by men's lacrosse in NESCAC semifinals

By Mary Claire Ecclesine

With the clock showing double zeros and the final horn having sounded, members of both the Middlebury men's lacrosse team and the visiting Wesleyan Cardinals celebrated on Middlebury's Youngman Field. Just seconds previously Jon Broome '16 — the NESCAC Rookie of the Year, and the conference's leading goal-scorer — had maneuvered his way into the heart of Wesleyan's stingy zone defense and, as time expired, unleashed a shot into the lower left-hand corner of the goal.

Pandemonium ensued — Broome and his teammates under the impression that the first-year phenom had tied the game with no time left, sending the NESCAC semifinals into overtime, Wesleyan players

convinced that Broome's shot hadn't broken the plane of the goal before time expired. The moment of confusion ended up being just that — a moment — as the referees converged, waving off the goal that might have saved the Panthers' season.

Instead, Middlebury lost in heartbreaking fashion in the NESCAC semifinals, 9-8 to fourth-seeded Wesleyan, denying the Panthers a spot in the NCAA tournament in the process.

"I don't think losing on Saturday was a function of being too confident," said Scott Redmond '13. "Wesleyan was a really good team and they were able to control the tempo of the game. They played us to within one goal in the regular season, and this game came down to the wire as well. I do think we

all expected to play better than we did because of how well we played a week before against Amherst."

After scoring a NESCAC-tournament-record 19 goals in the quarterfinals the week before against Amherst, Middlebury again started the game on the offensive end, opening up an early lead against the NESCAC's top defensive team. Darric White '14 and Stew Kerr '13 each notched first quarter goals while Broome tacked on two more to give the team a 4-1 lead after the opening 15 minutes.

Dave Campbell's team extended its lead to four late in the second quarter as Andrew Metros '13 and Eric Pfeffer '13 scored back-to-back long-range goals to give Middlebury a 7-3 lead with 3:44 remaining in the first half. That's where things began to fall apart for the NESCAC's top seed, as the Cardinals drew back two goals before the halftime break. Then, with seconds remaining in the half, Middlebury's John Duvnjak '13 was called for an ill-timed slashing penalty, giving Wesleyan an extra man opportunity to start the second half and guaranteed the Cardinals possession of the ball, as well.

The Cardinals carried the momentum into the second half, capitalizing on the advantage to start the half, scoring just 17 seconds after the re-start. Then, 62 seconds later, Wesleyan tied the game as Graham Macnab

SEE BROOME'S, PAGE 21



Brian Foster '13 battles a Wesleyan mid-fielder for the face off. The Panthers fell in this semifinal game 9-8, dashing their hopes of NCAA bid.

Men's tennis suffers 5-4 loss to Williams

By Lok Sze Leung

After a convincing 5-1 victory over fifth-seeded Tufts on Friday, May 3, third-seeded Middlebury suffered a heartbreaking 4-5 loss against eventual champion Williams in an epic five-hour battle on Saturday, May 4 in the NESCAC semifinals.

The Panthers now sit at 18-4 on the season and are ranked 11th in the country in the latest poll. Despite the loss, the squad received an at-large bid to the NCAA championships.

In contrast to the regular season match when the Panthers squeezed out a tight 5-4 win, the Middlebury men did not give the Jumbos any breathers. The first and third double pairs cruised to quick victories while junior Brantner Jones '14, first-year Jackson Frons '16 and sophomore Courtney Mountifield '15 carried the momentum and stormed to two-set wins.

The much-anticipated contest on Saturday between the two NESCAC powerhouses was arguably the best match that the Middlebury men have played thus far this season. The team showed themselves to be much improved from the 2-7 loss in the first meeting between the Panthers and the Ephs two weeks before.

With its upperclassmen-filled lineup, Williams has been tapped by many as one of the favorites in the NCAA field this year.

On Saturday morning at

Amherst, the Panthers started out well in doubles play. The top pair of juniors Alex Johnston '14 and Andrew Lebovitz surged to an early 3-0 lead by breaking their opponents' serve from the get-go.

Meanwhile, on court three, the hard-serving duo of senior tri-captain Spencer Lunghino '13 and first-year Palmer Campbell '16 had a 2-0 upper hand.

On the next court, the number-two doubles pair of juniors Brantner Jones '14 and James Burke '14 fell into an early 2-5 hole. That combo fought hard but was defeated by the score of 4-8. Immediately following that, both the top and the third Middlebury doubles pairs held their service games to notch the win in the identical score of 8-5.

"One doubles keeps getting better and better as Alex gains volley and overhead skills, is serving smarter and [Lebovitz] is more and more consistent overall and is also competing better as he matures as a player," said head coach Bob Hansen. "Third doubles also looked great."

The Middlebury men headed into singles play with a confidence-boosting 2-1 lead, and were looking to expand upon that lead against their conference rival.

Just two weeks before, the Panthers fell at all three doubles spots against the Ephs. The reshuffling of the doubles lineup and the intense

SEE MEN'S, PAGE 21

◀ MEN'S TENNIS SET TO HOST NCAAC REGIONAL PAGE 21



◀ SOFTBALL FALLS IN NESCAC TOURNAMENT PAGE 23